

INTERNATIONAL

2 die in ship accident

MANILA, Nov 20, (AP): Two crewmen died and 19 others were rescued, one in critical condition, in a ship accident in the South China Sea today, a rescue official said.

Jose Reyes, supervisor of the Manila rescue co-ordinating centre, said the 2,990-ton Panamanian-registered Kaohwa 3 sent out a distress call at 7.25 am (2330 GMT Sunday) saying it was taking in water in one of its holds.

Reports from rescue teams in the area did not indicate the cause of the accident or if the ship sank. Details on the ship's destination also were unavailable.

ble.

Reyes said the distress call from a point 288 km (180 miles) west of Luzon in the South China Sea was received by the US naval communications station in San Miguel, a town north of Manila, and relayed to the rescue co-ordinating centre.

Manila asked the Hong Kong marine department to co-ordinate rescue operations inside Philippine waters because the Philippine Coast Guard, Navy and Air Force were unable to conduct rescue operations so far out at sea, he said.

Misuari hails 'No' result in polls

JEDDAH, Nov 20, (AP): Philippines Muslim rebel leader Nur Misuari today lauded the rejection by voters of a plan for limited Muslim self-rule in the Mindanao region.

"I would like to ask the people of Mindanao to organise victory parades in all major cities and townships in order to celebrate their victory," Misuari said.

His Moro National Liberation Front had urged rejection of the proposal, calling instead for greater autonomy, and over a wider area, than was proposed in yesterday's plebiscite.

Misuari warned President Corason Aquino that the people of Mindanao have "overwhelmingly decided to give her defeat, because they want peace, justice and freedom to prevail in their homeland."

Commenting on the outcome of the referendum, Misuari said in a telephone interview that "the credit goes to the people themselves for giving a thumbs down to colonial manipulation and criminal attempts to impose a fait accompli."

Misuari also called on his people to maintain vigilance and "pursue their victory to its local end."

"I would like to congratulate our people for this great triumph but at the same time I would like to call on everyone, particularly our MNLF mujahedeen, to maintain their vigilance," he said.

The Muslim rebel leader has led a nearly two-decade struggle for independence in the Mindanao region. In 1987, it agreed after OIC mediation to accept the 1976 Tripoli agreement which provides for greater autonomy, and in a wider area, than would have been provided under the referendum proposal.

Misuari reiterated his insistence that Aquino should "respect the sovereign will of our people, pull back the 50,000 occupation forces from our homeland and desist from making genocidal war against our people."



Branson (right) and Lindstrand prepare in the capsule of their hot-air balloon at Miyakonojo, Japan. (Reuters wirephoto)

Crossing Pacific

Unsung hero of balloon flight

MIYAKONOJO, Japan, Nov 20, (Reuters): While millionaire adventurer Richard Branson basks in the limelight of Japan's media, his partner Per Lindstrand is the unsung hero of their history-making attempt to cross the Pacific by hot air balloon.

Branson's life will depend on the skill of the jovial, low-key Lindstrand when the pair take off from this small town in western Japan.

Lindstrand, a former Swedish Air Force pilot, designed the balloon and will pilot it on take-off and landing. His training drills and fine-tuned engineering will determine the success or failure of the Pacific mission.

The launch is tentatively set for Wednesday. Branson, the dashing 39-year-old chairman of Virgin Atlantic Airways, has been relentlessly trailed by the press since he arrived here. He has appeared in all major Japanese papers and on television, sporting kimonos and aviator gear.

The shaggy-maned Branson has even featured in a Japanese comic book and is fast becoming a household name in Japan, to match his fame in his native Britain.

But Lindstrand, 41, has not seemed to mind being out of the limelight.

He has been busy supervising technical staff working on the balloon. President of Thunder

and Colt, the world's largest balloon manufacturer, he is the technical mainstay of the flight, which would be the world's first across the Pacific by hot air balloon.

"Richard can't be expected to know all the technical details of the flight," Lindstrand told Reuters.

Lindstrand and Branson made history in 1987 when they were the first to cross the Atlantic in a hot air balloon. Now, as then, Lindstrand will act as Branson's instructor and mission leader, taking charge at critical moments.

"I will do the take-off and landing as the more seasoned balloonist," the tall Swede said. "But during the flight, it'll be a shared workload," he said the two would take turns keeping watch.

At news briefings Lindstrand takes the lead whenever technical details are discussed. His sunny gregarious charm is evident when briefing novices on the flight's intricate details.

Asked about the obvious dangers of the voyage, Lindstrand said: "There's no technical failure a cyanide pill wouldn't cure."

Lindstrand took an aeronautic engineering degree while in the Swedish Air Force and began ballooning in 1978.

Hawke kicks off election campaign

SYDNEY, Nov 20, (AP): Prime Minister Bob Hawke has kicked off what he says will be Australia's most crucial election campaign in 40 years, as new forecasts paint an increasingly grim picture of the country's economy.

"The choice is stark. The stakes are huge," Hawke, who is seeking a record fourth consecutive term in office. "It will determine the nature and quality of Australia we take into the 21st century."

The former trade union chief, who took office in 1983, linked opposition policies to a wages explosion, a plunge in the value of the Australian dollar, double-digit inflation, spiralling interest rates and hundreds of thousands of Australians returning to the unemployed scrapheap.

The opposition, naturally, blames Hawke for the economic woes. His opponent, Liberal Party leader Andrew Peacock, who heads a coalition of liberal and national parties, predicted the campaign would be one of the country's "toughest and dirtiest" ever.

Hawke's governing Australian Labour Party holds 85 seats in the House of Representatives to 45 for the Liberals and 18 for the Nationals.

A year ago, Hawke looked certain of achieving re-election. But as the opponents square off, Australians are subjected in the national press to a barrage of daily warnings about the state of the economy.

■ Australia's inflation rate is more than eight per cent, among the highest in the developed world.

■ High interest rates are hurting small businesses and consumers, particularly first-time home buyers. The business council of Australia, representing business leaders, last week forecast to let up in high interest rates for the next 15 years.

■ The balance of payments current account deficit is expected to rise to 18.5 billion (Australian) dollars (\$14.6 billion) this year, against 18.1 billion dollars (\$14.3 billion) in 1988.

■ Australia's overseas debt is rising and stands at 137 billion (Australian) dollars (\$108 billion).

■ Macquarie Bank, a large investment and merchant bank, predicted the foreign debt would almost double within the next five years and top 500 billion (Australian) dollars (\$395 billion) by the year 2000 if government policies don't change.

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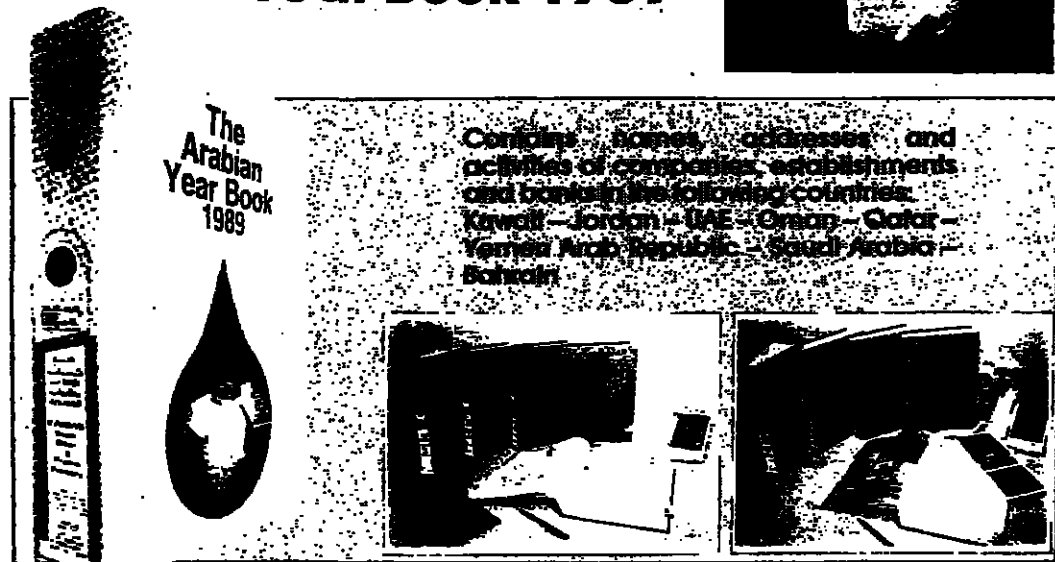
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Filipino troops overrun rebel camp, 17 slain in firefight

MANILA, Nov 20, (AP): Government troops killed 17 Communist guerrillas in a firefight and overrun a rebel camp in the northern Philippines, the military reported today.

A militiaman and a soldier were also killed in the skirmish last Wednesday in a village outside the town of Conner in Kalanga-Apayao province, 360 kilometres (225 miles)

north of Manila in Luzon's Cordillera mountain region. Two soldiers were wounded.

Lt Col Florencio Fianza, Philippine constabulary provincial commander, said in a report that soldiers and militiamen were on patrol in the village of Pugen when they encountered about 150 New People's Army rebels.

The constabulary, a branch of the military,

serves as the national police and is in charge of internal security.

Fianza said the rebels withdrew, leaving the bodies of seven of their comrades.

The troops captured a guerrilla base with foodstuffs enough to feed 100 men for a month, an M-16 rifle and numerous communist documents, Fianza said.

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INTERNATIONAL

Women across Mideast fast returning to veil

Genuine desire to advocate Muslim culture behind the social renaissance

BAHRAIN, (Reuters): Increasing numbers of women in the Middle East are returning to the veil, eager to assert their Islamic identity and embrace its strictures as a sign of husband-winning purity.

Women across the region say the growing influence of religious fundamentalists, peer pressure and a genuine desire to advocate their own Muslim culture is behind a recent social trend for more concealing clothing — including the face veil.

The "cover up" has sparked a raging debate in cosmopolitan Cairo, where mini-skirted women keeping step with latest Western fashions rub shoulders with their veiled and head-scarfed contemporaries.

"This trend is mainly due to increasing pressure from conservative religious groups but it's also a fad," said one female Gulf national who wished to remain anonymous.

"Many girls find that covering up puts

them above suspicion and gains them the complete trust of their families — it can also enhance their chances of marriage," she said.

Islam stipulates that women must cover their hair and dress modestly, in long, loosely fitting clothes.

Moderates say the Holy Quran does not require women to veil their faces, cover hands and feet or avoid wearing bright colours.

But during the past few years a number of women at colleges and universities from Istanbul to Cairo have begun draping themselves from head to toe in shapeless, sombre-hued smocks with face veil, black gloves and thick socks.

Sociologists say the popularity of the outfit — seen as inspired by the 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran — cuts across Shi'a and Sunni sectarian lines.

Disturbed by the veil's political implications — fundamentalists want strict sharia (Islamic) law — the Egyptian government initially banned veiled women from entering campuses and campaigned against total concealment.

University authorities there complain the veil has led to cheating at exams with some students impersonating others.

But last year, three women students won a legal battle with the government to enter campuses with their faces veiled.

The court upheld their right to wear what they pleased but said that if asked to identify themselves, the women must lift their veils to guards at the gates.

In Turkey, a secular country where 99 per cent of the population is Muslim, thousands of people have marched against a government ban on headscarves in universities in the biggest pro-Islamic demonstrations

since the 1980-83 military takeover.

The majority of Turks have embraced the Westernising reforms of Kemal Ataturk who formed the modern republic in 1923 from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire.

Most peasant women in rural areas still wear the headscarf but more as protection against the elements than in solidarity with Turkey's Islamic revival. The garb meets no resistance in other walks of life.

In Iran, women's dress is only an issue in big cities like Tehran because the chador — an all-encompassing cloak worn with head-cover but no veil — was common in villages and towns even before the Islamic republic was established.

Recent visitors say since the death in June of the country's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini, enforcement of the dress code — which used to earn offenders up to 74 lashes — has become sporadic.

Vice-squads which used to patrol the streets have all but vanished. Women test the limits by wearing loose, colourful headscarves which show much of their hair, stylish smocks decorated with zippers and buttons and at times heavy make-up.

"Some mothers not only do not abide by Islamic hijab (dress code) among themselves, but also lead their adolescent daughters along the same way," the conservative Resalat newspaper recently quoted an official at a women's theological school as saying.

In Saudi Arabia, the most conservative Gulf Arab state, observers say some women have begun discarding the traditional black abaya (silk cloak) — worn over colourful traditional thobes (dresses) in favour of drab Islamic garb and gloves.

"This outfit was unseen four or five years ago but it is widespread now... there's one

girl in every family wearing it," one Saudi woman said.

Some say the traditional Gulf burka, a black leather mask with slits for the eyes, is also experiencing a revival.

In the island state of Bahrain, known for its social tolerance and active female workforce, university teachers say around three quarters of their women students are wearing the headscarf compared with less than half four years ago.

A small percentage have also begun wearing veils to class.

This contrasts sharply with many who wear up-to-date Western fashions and even provocative clothing flaunting the iridescent colours and flounces favoured by many Gulf women.

But some of those who remain bare-headed say they have received anonymous notes asking them to cover up.



Showing off
Mother and father monkeys show off their 3-week-old son at Jakarta Zoo. The Debrazzae monkeys are native to the tropical Indonesian island of Bali. (Reuters wirephoto)

Distant quasar found in universe

PASADENA, Calif., Nov. 20, (AP): Astronomers say they have discovered the oldest, most distant object yet found in the universe, a star-like body called a quasar, about 14 billion light years from earth.

"We've found the most distant object on record," said astronomer Maarten Schmidt of the California Institute of Technology. "We are now seeing an object as it was a little over 1 billion years after the beginning of the universe."

Other scientists called the discovery significant because existence of the 14-billion-year-old quasar challenges a widely accepted theory of how quickly stars and galaxies formed.

And light from the quasar, illuminated gas in space, possibly giving astronomers their first look at the primordial matter from which all stars, galaxies and even life eventually arose.

The quasar, or quasi-stellar object, was seen through the 200-inch (508 cm) half telescope at Palomar observatory near San Diego, California.

It is located in the constellation Ursa Major just below the Big Dipper's bowl. Astronomers said it is 131 trillion billion kilometres, or 81 trillion billion miles from earth.

The discovery is reported in December's issue of the Astronomical Journal by Schmidt and astronomer James Gunn of Princeton University and Donald Schneider of the Institute for Advanced Study, an independent research centre also located in Princeton, New Jersey.

A quasar is only the size of our solar system. Yet quasars are the brightest objects in the universe, the brightest emitting more light than 1,000 galaxies of 100 billion stars each.

Astronomers believe quasars form near black holes in the centers of galaxies. Black holes are objects so massive their gravity sucks in even light. But as matter is pulled into a black hole, intense bursts of light also are emitted.

Scientists theorize that a gigantic explosion called the "Big Bang" created the universe 10 billion to 20 billion years ago. They usually cite 15 billion years as the universe's estimated age.

On the scale, the newly discovered quasar formed at least 14 billion years ago. One light year equals 5.88 trillion miles, the distance light travels in one year.

If the universe is 20 billion years old, Schmidt said the quasar is about 18.5 billion light years away, or 109 trillion billion miles (175 trillion billion kilometres) from earth.

Finding the quasar is "striking, unexpected and very significant" because it suggests the first galaxies and stars developed much earlier and faster than can be explained by a popular theory of how the universe evolved, said astrophysicist John Bahcall of the Institute for Advanced Study.

Lefebvre marks 60 years as priest

PARIS, Nov. 20, (AP): Excommunicated Catholic Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre celebrated his 60th year of priesthood yesterday with a Latin rite Mass at Le Bourget airport attended by more than 15,000 followers.

"This ceremony is a homage we wanted to pay to Monsignor Lefebvre because, without him, there would be no more true religion," said the Rev. Philippe Laguerie of the Parish of St. Nicolas du Chardonnet, the heart of the traditionalist movement that Lefebvre leads.

Lefebvre, 84, has ordained numerous priests into his Fraternity of St. Pius X, based in Switzerland. But on June 30, 1988, when he consecrated four bishops without the agreement of Pope John Paul II, he was excommunicated.

"For us, this day is a great success," said Laguerie.

Monaco marks N-day

No hint of Rainier abdication

MONACO, Nov. 20, (Reuters): Celebrations yesterday to mark the National Day of the tiny Mediterranean principality of Monaco passed with ruling Prince Rainier III still in place despite reports he might use the occasion to step down.

Earlier this week, the glossy French magazine Paris-Match, which closely monitors the activities of Europe's royals, said Rainier, 66, may choose National Day festivities to announce his abdication in favour of his 31-year-old son Prince Albert.

The magazine said Rainier, still mourning the 1982 death of his wife Grace Kelly, was tired of the daily routine of palace officialdom and believed Albert was now sufficiently groomed to rule Monaco's 5,000 subjects.

Monaco palace press officer Mireille Rebaudo on Friday denied the claims.

Albert has been quoted as saying he considered his initiation into the affairs of state was complete and he felt ready to govern. A graduate in political science from Amherst College, Massachusetts, he has worked in a New York bank and studied marketing.



Princess Rainier (L) and Albert (R), accompanied by his son Andrea wave to the crowd, during the Monaco National Day parade. (Reuters wirephoto)

Highest paid lawyer

NEW YORK, Nov. 20, (UPI): High-profile divorce lawyer Raoul Felder is among a growing number of attorneys who make up to \$500 an hour for their work, a recently released survey said.

The annual survey of attorney billing rates, to be published in the National Law Journal, lists Felder as among the highest-paid lawyers in the country.

Felder's reputation as hard-hitting courtroom fighter brought him Robin Givens' highly publicised case against heavyweight champion Mike Tyson.

"Felder proudly told us his fees had gone up from \$450 an hour last year," said Doreen Weissenhaus, editor of the weekly newspaper.

Other top-billing lawyers included Stephen Susman of Houston, Texas, at \$475 an hour and Harvard Law School's headline-grabbing Alan Dershowitz, at \$385 an hour, the magazine said.

Many lawyers were not forthcoming about their fees, said Weissenhaus.

But two firms — Keck, Mahin and Cate in Chicago, Illinois, and Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glowsky and Peopco PC in Boston, Massachusetts — among 250 surveyed acknowledged that top partners collected \$500 an hour.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

OSLO: Some Norwegians may dream of a rich American aunt leaving them \$1 million. Someone's fantasy came true this week, but the question is whose.

The Foreign Ministry is searching for the niece or nephew of the late Olga Johnson, a widow of Norwegian descent from Glasgow, Mont. She died and left an unclaimed million-dollar fortune.

"We often get cases like this, but this is an unusually large amount," said Kjell Breitt of the Foreign Ministry.

He said the ministry had some leads.

NEW YORK: Gary Cooper's daughter, Maria Cooper Janis, says her father started out wanting to be an artist, while painter Pablo Picasso fancied himself a hand with a slit-shooter.

Cooper, hero of many a Western film in his 98-movie acting career, was always sketching and "was frustrated that he never had the time to make good paintings," Maria Cooper Janis wrote in a remembrance of her father in the latest issue of Parade magazine.

"Picasso and his wife, Jacqueline, were friends of my parents, and we often visited them in the south of France," she said.

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pennsylvania: (AP): Dorothy Beardsheugh always wanted to walk down the aisle with the man of her dreams, but she never imagined she would do it in a supermarket.

Ms Beardsheugh, 38, and Russell Marshall, 46, were married Thursday night in aisle 3 at the county market store, where they met in July 1988.

"It's romantic," she said. "We fell in love with each other on first sight in the generic section."

Baby-swap dispute Gene test ends suit

CLEARWATER, Florida, Nov. 20, (AP): Genetic tests on a girl who has been at the centre of a baby-swap dispute indicate she apparently is the child of the couple who claim her and not the man who raised her, the couple's lawyer said yesterday.

John Blakely, a lawyer for Ernest and Regina Twigg, said the tests give a 99.9 per cent certainty that Kimberly Michelle Mays, age 10, is the daughter of the Twiggs and not of Robert Mays and his late wife.

Today's the day that ends the guesswork," said Blakely at a meeting in his Clearwater office attended by the Twiggs and their seven other children.

The couple say Kimberly was switched with another child at a Florida Maternity Hospital shortly after birth. The girl the Twiggs named Arlena and raised as their own died last year.

Mays had no immediate comment.

He agreed to genetic testing only after the Twiggs promised not to seek custody of the child if she turned out to be their biological daughter. Under the agreement, the Twiggs retain the option to seek visitation rights.

The Twiggs began their fight last year after learning through genetic tests that the girl they raised as their own, Arlena Twigg, was not their biological daughter. She died of a heart defect in 1988, never knowing about the questions raised. The Twiggs said a blood test before her death revealed Arlena was not related to either of them.

LOS ANGELES: A 538-foot (164-metre) oil tanker crushed a 90-foot (27.4-metre) fishing boat outside Los Angeles harbour, injuring four fishermen and causing a small petroleum spill, a US Coast Guard official says.

The fishing vessel Shogun remained afloat despite the damage from the tanker Antares about two miles (3.2 kilometres) offshore late Thursday night, said petty officer Robert Beals.

Lifeguards from Long Beach rescued the Shogun's four-member crew and took them to a hospital, Beals said. He said he did not know how badly they were injured.

Wausau, Wisconsin: Ten-year-old Hillary Schaefer guarantees that if US President George Bush listens to her advice, the number of fish he catches "will shoot up like a rocket."

The fourth-grader was selected from 5,400 write-in essay entrants to appear on a national public television programme for students, "What's In The News," to relate advice she would give the President.

Hillary's essay was inspired by Bush's lack of fishing success during a vacation at his home in Maine. She donned a fishing hat, grabbed a pole and clutched a fishing net while she read her essay during a videotaping session at a local television station Tuesday.

TAMPA: A man charged with rape who pleaded with a judge to replace his public defender punched the lawyer in the face in front of the jury.

Smith Johnson Grady's blow left assistant public defender John Beato crumpled on the floor Wednesday.

Grady then stood over Beato and yelled, "Don't call me no nigger," something witnesses said they never heard Beato say.

Bailiffs quickly subdued Grady. Beato was taken to a hospital, where he received several stitches near his eye.

The uproar occurred in the first hour of Grady's trial in the rape, robbery and beating of a young woman May 19.

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Black woman waits alone in death row cell

CAPE TOWN, Nov 20, (AP): Until one violent day in 1985, Evelina de Bruin was like countless other black South African women: an illiterate maid, raised in an isolated farming district, mother of 10.

Today, she is the only woman on South Africa's death row.

De Bruin and 13 men were sentenced to death in May for the November 1985 mob killing of a black policeman in Paballo, the black section of the

remote northwestern town of Upington.

Twenty-six people were tried for the killing, and four men were found to have physically contributed to the death of Lucas Sethwala, who was chased from his home, stoned, beaten and set on fire.

In addition to those four, De Bruin and nine others were convicted of murder under the doctrine of "common purpose," which holds them responsible

because they were part of the crowd that sought to kill Sethwala.

Sethwala's death occurred at a time of nation-wide black unrest. Hours before he was slain, several thousand blacks gathered at a soccer field in Paballo to protest rent hikes and other grievances.

After police dispersed the crowd with tear-gas, about 200 people regrouped around Sethwala's home and threw stones to force him outside, where he

was killed.

Militant blacks frequently have attacked black policemen, saying they are collaborators with the white-led government and its apartheid policies.

De Bruin and her common-law husband, who also was sentenced to death, were identified as having thrown stones at Sethwala's house. According to the state's evidence, she allegedly yelled: "The dog is in the house. Bring him out and burn him alive."

De Bruin testified during the trial that she and her husband went back to their own house after the protest meeting was dispersed and were not present at Sethwala's home.

De Bruin, who had no previous criminal record and worked for the same white family for 30 years, has little understanding of what is happening to her, said her Cape Town-based attorney, Andrea Durbach.

"She cannot eat, she can't sleep," Ms

Durbach said. "It's a very dramatic thing to say, but I used to think to myself that she's just going to die of a broken heart."

De Bruin, who is in her 50s, suffers from arthritis, heart disease and has high blood pressure, Ms Durbach said. She does not know where her prison is and thinks she's been imprisoned for at least a year, when in fact it has been six months.

Challenge to Thatcher

LONDON, Nov 20, (Kuna): The timetable for the election of a British Conservative Party leader could be advanced, with voting to take place at the earliest possible date, Dec 5, according to senior party sources here today.

The Independent newspaper said that it has been told that a challenge to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, as the party leader is now "a virtual certainty."

Guerrillas pull out

Salvadorans fear revenge wave

SAN SALVADOR, Nov 20, (AP): Many Salvadorans fear a wave of revenge and repression after a week of combat between leftist guerrillas and the government.

By last night, the rebels had pulled out of most of the territory they seized in the capital. People were returning to their homes, although thousands remained in shelters, rendered homeless by the fierce battle.

The rightist government, clearly stunned by the sweep of the rebel offensive, had been struggling to maintain the appearance of control.

The rebel offensive sparked a backlash that called into question President Alfredo Cristiani's control over the armed forces and the extremist wings of his party, the Republican Nationalist Alliance, known as Arena.

"A dreadful wave of revenge, repression and witch-hunting may follow," Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas said as he prepared to bury six Jesuit professors allegedly slain by a military-linked death squad.

Many opposition politicians, labour leaders, religious and human rights activists have gone into hiding or left the country because of threats or arrests followed by deportation orders.

But Rivera Damas, whose predecessor was slain by a right-wing death squad, defied the chill descending on the nation.

He expressed "the vehement presumption that the assassins of the six Jesuits are members of the armed forces or are intimately connected to them."

The attorney-general, meanwhile, repeated his call for the Pope to withdraw Rivera Damas and auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, accusing them of fomenting leftist violence. He said they should get out of El Salvador.

"Monseñor Rosa Chavez has participated, even his brothers are part of the guerrillas," attorney-general Mauricio Colorado told a news conference of his letter to Pope John Paul II. "The right here isn't rational."

Lutheran Bishop Medardo Gomez said when asked about the letter he was waiting for the Jesuit funeral to begin.

As fighting raged throughout broad sections of the capital last week, the government insisted the situation was in hand. The head of the armed forces general staff, Col Rene Emilio Fonce, even made televised appeals for people to return to work.

But the sound of gunfire, mortars and rockets told another story.

With the return of relative calm, shops began to open, motorists began to venture out and public transport resumed.

Cristiani said the rebels still held two areas in the Soyapango neighbourhood in the east and two in Ciudad Delgado in the north.

The President appealed for contributions to a war relief fund and said the government had improved the flow of supplies to shelters.



Mourners jam the funeral procession for six Jesuit priests in San Salvador who were killed by unknown gunmen. Hundreds of Salvadorans attended the funeral. (Reuters wirephoto)



Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani sits with clergymen during the funeral mass for six Jesuit priests who were murdered by unknown gunmen at the University of Central America in San Salvador. (Reuters wirephoto)

Although he did not lift the dusk-to-dawn curfew, he said the 24-hour curfews in two combat zones in the capital, Mejicanos and Ayutuxpeque, and one in the countryside, Tenancingo were cut to 6 pm to 6 am.

Guillermo Rojas, the prominent leader of one of El Salvador's main labour confederations, was found slain in a working-class district on the outskirts of the capital.

China plans curbs on HK

HONG KONG, Nov 20, (AP): China is considering measures to restrict political activity in Hong Kong after it reverts to Chinese rule in 1997, media reports said today.

The reports quoted Li Hou, a top Chinese official involved in Hong Kong affairs, as saying China was considering prohibiting contacts with overseas political groups and limiting or banning foreign nationals from the territory's legislature.

Li, who spoke to reporters in the nearby Chinese city of Canton, said the measures were being considered as part of Hong Kong's post-colonial constitution to prevent attempts to "internationalise" the territory politically.

However, he stressed that China welcomed international participation in the territory's economy.

The mini-constitution is supposed to ensure China's promises that Hong Kong can maintain its capitalist system for at least 50 years after the change in sovereignty and enjoy a "high degree of autonomy."

But Beijing recently harshly attacked its critics in Hong Kong who have loudly condemned the brutal crackdown on dissent in China.

China was "worried that Hong Kong will become a base for subversive activities against the Chinese central government and the socialist systems on the mainland," Li was quoted by the English-language South China Morning Post as saying.

"There is the danger. We have to deal with the problem," Li, the deputy director of the Chinese state council's Hong Kong and Macao affairs office, was quoted as saying.

Citizens of other countries now sit on Hong Kong's legislative council, which consists of officials, appointed members and representatives elected by special interest groups.

Hong Kong groups also have contacts with overseas political groups, including those that oppose the communist Chinese government in Beijing.

Dissenting Chinese in exile in the West after escaping the crackdown on dissent have received financial support from the Hong Kong alliance in support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement of China, an umbrella organisation of local groups that backed the crushed demonstrations for freedom in Beijing.

Deng Xiaoping, explaining his voluntary retirement to other senior Chinese leaders, warned that he might say "crazy things" as he ages, a pro-Beijing newspaper reported.

In a Sept 4 speech, Deng said his retirement was designed to end the system of lifetime tenure among top officials.

"My last function is to take the lead to abolish lifetime employment," the Chinese-language Wen Wei Po paraphrased Deng as saying.

"When a man grows old, he tends to become stubborn and lose energy, this cannot be changed by subjective will. I am old now, my brain still works but I may say crazy things in the future," he said.

The speech was made two months before Deng, 85, officially resigned from his post as Communist Party chairman of the Central Military Commission. He was replaced by his handpicked heir, party chief Jiang Zemin.

Cambodian guerrillas begin major offensive

Aim at consolidating gains

BANGKOK, Nov 20, (Agencies): Thousands of Khmer Rouge and Western-backed Cambodian guerrillas launched an offensive on government positions close to the Thai border today, diplomats and Thai officials said.

They said the guerrillas took part in co-ordinated pre-dawn attacks aimed at clearing defence positions guarding Sisophon, a market town and military headquarters about 50 km (30 miles) from the frontier, and consolidating gains made over the past two months.

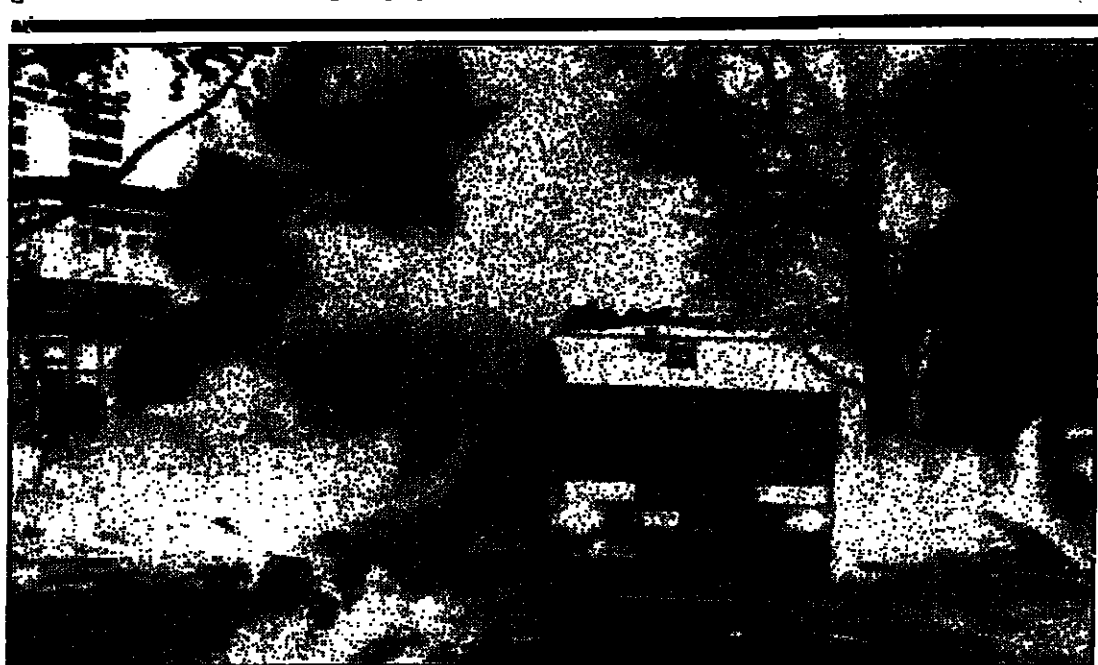
The attack was launched four days after the United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly endorsed the Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla movement which is fighting against the Vietnamese-backed

government in Phnom Penh.

Guerrillas from the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer People's National Liberation Forces (KPRLF) assaulted Route 5, a deeply pitted dirt road leading from the border.

A Thai official at the border said the guerrillas controlled about 20 km (12 miles) of the road.

Further north, KPRLF forces and men loyal to former leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk moved in from the border and renewed a stalled attack on Svay Chek, a town about 25 km (15 miles) north of Sisophon on Route 69.



Evicting squatters

Police used bulldozers to break down burning barricades and smashed through the roof of a stately home on Monday to evict the last band of squatters occupying premises in central Amsterdam.

No arrests were made and the 300 squatters, many wearing helmets and shouting revolutionary slogans, later staged a march through the city centre.

Police spokesman Kees Wiltink said the protesters faced an equal number of police, who had earlier carried out baton charges while the squatters threw stones from behind burning debris in back streets near the fashionable Leidseplein area.

No injuries were immediately reported.

Police water cannon and bulldozers attacked the barricades of burning rubbish as smoke gathered over the city centre, disrupting traffic during the morning rush hour.

The protest was the biggest in several years by Amsterdam's once vociferous squatter movement, which nearly 10 years ago turned the Dutch capital into a virtual battlefield with protests against the coronation of Queen Beatrix.

Squatters put up barricades before dawn on Monday, the deadline set in a court ruling earlier this year allowing police to start evicting them.

A police vehicle breaks down a burning barricade. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heart transplant success: A nine-month-old baby girl was recovering from heart transplant surgery today after a Europe-wide search for a donor ended in success, it was reported in London.

Maria Gordon, from Northern Ireland, was said to be "stable" at Harefield Hospital, West London. The transplant was carried out last night by the Egyptian-born top heart transplant surgeon, Professor Magdi Yacoub. (Kuna)

A piece of advice to Queen: Britain's Queen Elizabeth was advised to lock up her dogs, from the breed of corgis, as animal lovers plan to protest to Buckingham Palace because she is due to lunch with the South Korean President, Roh Tae-Woo, a popular newspaper reported today.

The protesters issued the advice because Koreans enjoy eating dogs, the daily Star newspaper said. The banquet is scheduled for Nov 29, during an official visit to Britain by the South Korean President. (Kuna)

Massive bar bill for Harris: One-time hell-raiser Richard Harris, celebrating the end of location shooting on his latest film, ran up a 1,000 punt (1,500-dollar) bar bill but stayed sober.

The Irish actor, once famed for his hard-drinking, never touched a drop of alcohol himself and sipped tea while the crew on the Irish film "The Field," his first screen appearance for eight years, made merry at a west of Ireland hotel. (Reuters)

Presidential jet delayed again: A new high-tech Air Force One, the official jet of the US President, probably won't be ready before mid-1990, defence officials said.

"We had hoped it would be done by the end of President (Ronald) Reagan's term, but of course, it's not even close," an air force spokesman Lt Col Darrell Hayes said in a recent interview. (AP)

Peru rebels kill army officer: An army commandant was assassinated yesterday by Maoist guerrillas as he arrived home shortly after midnight, police said.

Simon Dulaanto Navidad, 37, was stopped by three people who forced him out of his vehicle as he approached his house in a Lima suburb, they said. He was shot five times in the chest, arms and head, according to police. (AP)

Rally in memory of Franco: Thousand of flag-waving Spaniards rallied yesterday in downtown Madrid, ignoring rain showers to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the death of fascist dictator Gen. Francisco Franco.

The demonstration, headed by Franco's only daughter Carmen Franco Polo, was organised by an organisation of veterans who fought with the general in the revolt against the second republic that sparked the 1936-39 Spanish civil war. (AP)

Kim appears in public: Kim Jong Il, eldest son and heir apparent to North Korean leader Kim Il Sung, appeared in public for the first time in four months, the North's official radio Pyongyang said today.

The younger Kim, a member of the Politburo of the North Korean Workers' (Communist) Party and the second most powerful leader after his father, was among other Politburo members and secretaries, who voted for local deputies in the people's assembly elections, held on Sunday, the radio said. (AP)

Ship abandoned off Greek island: A Syrian sailor was missing after most of the crew abandoned a container ship as it was slowly sinking today off the western Greek island of Zakynthos in the Ionian Sea, the Merchant Marine Ministry said.

The 2,180-tonne Greek-owned Despo, carrying tomato juice from Zakynthos to Algeria, had engine trouble and was listing badly, forcing six of the seven sailors aboard to abandon ship, the ministry said. (Reuters)

Wrongdoing in Aids virus discovery: An American scientist criticised in a newspaper's account of the discovery of the cause of Aids says the story is "old and silly," and he denies the story's allegations that he acted improperly.

The report in the Chicago Tribune described, but did not resolve charges made several years ago that Robert Gallo, the scientist credited as the co-discoverer of the Aids virus, had accidentally or deliberately claimed the first sample of the virus — isolated in France — as his own.

"What appeared in Robert Gallo's lab during the winter of 1983-84 is a mystery that may never be entirely solved," said the story. (AP)

Lula faces De Mello

BRASILIA, Nov 20, (AP): Returns trickling in today appeared to confirm that Marxist candidate Luis Inacio "Lula" da Silva will face conservative Fernando Collor de Mello in a presidential runoff election.

With 99.3 per cent of the ballots counted, Da Silva, of the radical left Workers Party, held a 400,000-vote lead over the third-place candidate, Leonel Brizola of the centre-left Democratic Labour Party.

The two candidates had been very close in vote counting, slowed by computer problems, following the Nov 15 election. But it was evident shortly after the election that Collor de Mello had finished first among the 21 candidates, with about 28 per cent of the vote.

Da Silva had 16.1 per cent and Brizola 15.5 per cent.

As no candidate received a majority, Da Silva and Collor de Mello will face each other in a runoff scheduled for Dec 17.

The electoral court president, Jose Francisco Rezak, said final ballots would be counted today.

Traffic accident in Cyprus

7 UK soldiers die

NICOSIA, Nov 20, (AP): Seven British soldiers were killed and several others injured when an army truck plunged down a cliff on a mountain road in central Cyprus today, a British military spokesman Chris Shepherd reported.

"Royal Air Force helicopters are flying the injured to the RAF hospital at Akrotiri and we don't know the exact number yet," he said.

All the soldiers belonged to the coldstream guards regiment based in Cyprus, where Britain maintains sovereign bases, the

biggest outside the United Kingdom.

"A four-ton truck was travelling along the narrow mountain road when it fell off a cliff near the village of Monatis," he said.

The village is 14 miles (24 kilometres) north of the British base at Episkopi on the Mediterranean island's southwestern coast.

There are some 10,000 troops and dependents in Episkopi, the nearby Akrotiri air base and the army base at Dhekelia on the south coast.

Fate of man who bailed out of plane with \$200,000 ransom remains a mystery

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov 20, (UPI): Eighteen years ago on Wednesday, D.B. Cooper parachuted out of an airplane between Seattle and Portland into oblivion and folklore in what remains the nation's only unsolved airline hijacking.

On Thanksgiving eve in 1971, Cooper threatened to blow up a commercial airliner unless he received \$200,000 ransom, then bailed out of the plane into a driving rainstorm with the loot, never to be seen again.

Most people, including FBI investigators who have never closed the file on the case, believe Cooper

died after parachuting out of the plane.

But some, including private investigator Richard Tosaw of Ceres, California, believe Cooper could have survived; but somehow become separated from some, if not all, of his ill-gotten gains.

Brian Ingram, of Vancouver, Wash., was 8 when he found three packets of moldy \$20 bills buried in sand along the Columbia river near Vancouver on Feb 10, 1980. The FBI later determined the \$5,800 was part of the ransom money. But Cooper and the rest of the money remain elusive.

Tosaw has offered a \$25,000 reward for Cooper,

dead or alive. He has repeatedly searched the Columbia and surrounding forests near the cascade range for the rest of the loot, without success.

But the legend of Cooper continues, especially in the north-west where there are annual parties to mark the anniversary of his infamous deed.

The hijacking began after a middle-aged man wearing a white shirt, narrow black tie, dark suit, raincoat and sunglasses and carrying a briefcase, boarded Northwest Airlines flight 305 in Portland to fly to Seattle.

Before the plane took off, Cooper read a newspaper and had two bourbon-and-water drinks, then handed an envelope to stewardess Florence Schaffner and told her to read the note inside.

The note, hand-printed with a felt pen, said, "I have a bomb in my briefcase. I will use it if necessary. I want you to sit beside me. You are being hijacked."

Schaffner later related that after the plane was airborne, Cooper opened his briefcase and showed her several red cylinders that looked like road flares. She said a wire led from the cylinders to a battery.

The end

The remains of sovereign Prince Franz Joseph II of Liechtenstein are carried from the castle's chapel to the parish church of Veduz on Sunday. The state funeral of the prince will take place on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)

US planning defence cuts

WASHINGTON, Nov 20, (AP): Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said yesterday he was planning to cut military spending next year because "the likelihood of all-out conflict between the US and the Soviet Union... is probably lower now than it's been at just about any time since the end of

World War II." "You can't watch the events unfold in Eastern Europe, the development of governments headed by non-communists, the possibilities of free elections, of opposition parties, and not believe that that will have some long-term impact upon the

security situation in Europe," Cheney said. Cheney's assessment that the Soviets were cutting military spending, and that further US defence reductions were acceptable, marks a shift from his position of as recently as two weeks ago, and appears to be based on recent analysis by the Central

Intelligence Agency. "Given the changes that we see today in Eastern Europe, I think it's possible to contemplate the possibility over the next few years that we may, indeed, be able to reduce the level of our deployments in Western Europe," Cheney said.

Bush vetoes foreign aid bill

WASHINGTON, Nov 20, (AP): President George Bush has vetoed a \$14.6 billion foreign aid bill that includes \$533 million for Poland and Hungary, saying he could not accept renewed assistance to a United Nations agency he said supports coercive abortions.

The veto yesterday immediately sparked a round of debate on the House floor, with liberals moving to take advantage of the Bush veto and add restrictions on assistance to El Salvador in a new foreign aid bill that would otherwise be acceptable to the President.

Bush said in his veto message to Congress that he objected to a provision providing \$15 million to the United Nations population fund and that a section limiting use of foreign aid interfered with his constitutional duties.

The UN agency has been barred from receiving US funds for the past five years because it operates in China, which strictly enforces a policy allowing one child per family.

China has resorted to forced abortions and sterilisations, according to anti-abortion activists in this country.

The bill "would clearly place the United States in the position of supporting a programme that in turn supports coercive abortions, a programme that is inconsistent with American values."

The House last week agreed to delete the aid to the agency, but the Senate insisted and proponents included a provision that none of the US money could be used in China.

Bush said he also objected to a provision in the bill which prohibits the administration from using foreign aid money as leverage to get other countries to do what it cannot legally do. The measure "would interfere with my constitutional authority to conduct the foreign relations of the United States," Bush said.

A byproduct of the Iran-Contra scandal of the Ronald Reagan administration, the provision would, for example, prevent the White House from giving special favours to Honduras if that country continues to harbour the Contra rebels from Nicaragua.

A new version of the bill, already negotiated in expectation of the veto, includes a compromise on that issue but congressional leaders did not disclose the nature of the agreement.

Congress tried tackling a pile of troublesome budget, health and other bills in a rare Sunday session spurred on by lawmakers' hopes of soon leaving the capital for the year.

Deployed Laser weapon

WASHINGTON, Nov 20, (Reuters): The Washington Times newspaper said today a defecting Soviet scientist had revealed details of space-based Soviet laser weapons capable of attacking US satellites and possibly ballistic missiles.

The paper, citing Bush administration intelligence sources, said the laser system was deployed in 1983 and was a possible violation of the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty.

The alleged defector was not identified by name. He was said to have sought asylum at the US embassy in Belgrade and told the Central Intelligence Agency the Soviet laser-weapons programme was known as "project astrophysics."

Pro-democracy protests mount

Call to protect E. German mark from devaluation

EAST BERLIN, Nov 20, (AP): More than 100,000 pro-democracy protesters defied freezing weekend weather in several East German cities to mount new protests denouncing the embattled communist leadership.

The party's daily Berliner Zeitung reported on its front page today that some extremists have called for sabotage of the nation's electrical system as a sign of protest. It warned citizens not to heed such destructive appeals.

In an article headlined "A call to sabotage," the newspaper con-

firming earlier reports that leaflets had been distributed in East Berlin calling for simultaneous overloading of electrical circuits to cause a breakdown of the system.

"Whoever is producing such leaflets seeks neither democratisation of society nor economic reform," the newspaper said. "He wants only a breakdown."

The Communist Party's main daily, Neues Deutschland, continued to praise the government's action in letting millions travel to the West, describing the border opening as "prudent."

But the newspaper suggested immediate measures to protect the East German mark from further devaluation through black-market trading, and said East Germany's neighbours should help the reform effort.

Anti-communist sentiment has been somewhat muted since Nov 9, when the leadership lifted travel restrictions, releasing hundreds of weekend visitors into the West. But thousands continue to push for further reforms, and another massive demonstration was expected in Leipzig tonight.

On the second weekend since the opening of Berlin Wall and other border crossings, nearly three million East Germans travelled to West Berlin and West Germany between Friday and Sunday, West German police said.

"The opening of the borders was the best proof of our sincerity about reform," said Communist Party chief Egon Krenz during a state TV interview yesterday from his modest but comfortable family home.

Krenz today postponed a visit to Czechoslovakia, the hardline communist state which has been gripped in the last four days by a surge of protests and pressure for reform.

The official East German news agency ADN said the visit, which had been scheduled for tomorrow, was postponed by mutual agreement of the two countries. It said Krenz would travel to Prague at a later, unspecified date.

Krenz said he was in favour of a new voting law to meet public demands for competitive elections, and shrugged off a suggestion that he could be ousted at a party congress next month.

"Naturally, I want to fight for the changes we've managed so far," Krenz said. But if the party is of another opinion, then they should find another general secretary.

In Dresden, where 50,000 people braved icy winds for an outdoor rally, protesters declared yesterday: "We won't let ourselves be blinded by the open borders."

The official ADN news agency reported pro-democracy rallies in a half-dozen cities and towns yesterday.

End to party role sought

VIENNA, Nov 20, (Reuters): A reformer in Bulgaria's new leadership today urged an end to the dominance of the ruling Communist Party and demanded new laws to prevent the return of conditions that prevailed under ousted hardliner Todor Zhivkov.

Andrei Lukinov, elected to full membership of the party's ruling Politburo in a shake-up last Thursday, told the official newspaper Narodna Mladost that the roles of government and party must be clearly delimited.

Under Zhivkov, who was ousted as party chief and president by Foreign Minister Petar Mladenov last week, Parliament merely rubber-stamped the decisions of the party.

"The government must be government in the full sense of the word," the Parliament a parliament in deed, the party a vanguard political force and not an institution on top of everything else," Lukinov said in the interview.

Lukinov, former minister of foreign economic relations, said the government must follow through its avowed support for such changes with new laws.

"Our most important task is to ensure within the shortest possible term constitutional and legislative guarantees that will render any reversal impossible," Lukinov said.



Let there be freedom

A father and his son light a candle on the place where Czechoslovakia's riot police on Friday severely beat demonstrators and journalists. (Reuters wirephoto)

Czechs rally for fall of reds

PRAGUE, Nov 20, (Reuters): Well over 100,000 Czechoslovaks demanding an end to communist rule poured on to the streets of Prague today in the biggest mass protest in 20 years.

In a demonstration of the "people power" which brought down the hardline East German leadership last month, Czechoslovaks packed into the huge Wenceslas Square waving national flags.

"We are the whole country," they chanted. The crowd was more than twice the size of a demonstration last Friday, the previous largest protest since the Warsaw Pact invasion of 1968 crushed the Prague Spring reform movement.

Calling for the resignation of the conservative communist party leadership under Milos Jakes, they shouted: "Milos, it's over. We don't want you any more."

It was the fourth straight day of growing protests which have made the Czechoslovak regime look increasingly vulnerable to the winds of reform sweeping across Eastern Europe.

Protesters called for a new government, free elections and loudly supported a general strike that students and artists have called for Nov 27.

Wenceslas Square, the scene of public protests in recent days, was completely filled.

Today's rally came after three days of increasingly angry protests over recent police violence against demonstrators in downtown Prague.

The crowds crammed the square chanting "enough, enough," "come here, Czechoslovaks" and "we don't want violence."

Students began a sit-in strike at most Prague universities today to protest the police attacks, student sources said, and a communist leader for the first time condemned the crackdown.

Banned playwright and prominent activist Václav Havel cancelled a trip to Sweden in protest of the beatings.

According to unofficial reports, strike committees were negotiating with university authorities at the technical university in Prague and the downtown film faculty.

At least three official Prague theatres went on a de facto strike, refusing to put on shows and terminating co-operation with official media, actors told the Associated Press by telephone. They spoke on condition of not being identified.

A statement of the official Socialist Union of Youth called Friday night's police crackdown on student demonstrators "politically irresponsible."

The communist was endorsed by Vasil Mohorita, the union's chairman and Communist Party Central Committee secretary. It was the first time a communist official publicly condemned such police action.

Police used truncheons, tear gas and attack dogs Friday to disperse the largest demonstration in 20 years. Hospital officials said 100 people required treatment.

The march was to commemorate student Jan Opletal, killed by the Nazis 50 years ago. It was the largest demonstration in Czechoslovakia since August 1969, when crowds gathered in downtown Prague a year after a Soviet-led invasion crushed a reform movement.

Ceausescu's no to any reforms

West envoys boycott

BUCHAREST, Nov 20, (AP): President Nicolae Ceausescu rejected the democratic reforms sweeping most of the East bloc during a five-hour speech today to a congress of the ruling Communist Party.

"The ruling out of the capitalist system... is the leading requirement for the creation of a just society," he told more than 3,000 delegates packing downtown Palace Hall.

Many Western ambassadors boycotted the gathering to protest alleged human rights violations under Ceausescu.

The Romanian leader has also become increasingly isolated in the East bloc as one-party rule unravels in one Warsaw Pact country after another under the pressure of popular unrest.

He urged the 3.8 million party members — about 15 per cent of Romania's population — to maintain the principles of "scientific socialism" instituted in 1965, the year he took over.

Delegates, in what appeared to be rehearsed actions, rose frequently to clap and chant "Romania-communism" and "Ceausescu-heroinism."

They were silenced after about 30 seconds by a wave from Ceausescu, who stood at a huge dais decorated with the communist hammer and sickle.

Organisers said 115 delegations from 82 countries were expected, but all NATO countries except Turkey stayed away. Reform-minded communist or socialist parties from Hungary, Italy and Finland also refused to attend in protest over the country's poor human rights record.

Attendance of any of the parties' activities would be inconsistent with the depth of US concerns over the human rights situation in Romania, for which the Romanian Communist Party bears responsibility, the US embassy said in a statement.

Romania has been a regular target of Western human rights organisations as well as international conferences for its suppression of dissent and restrictions on religious freedom.

Yugoslav colliery toll 90

Mine rocked again

BELGRADE, Nov 20, (Reuters): An explosion rocked Yugoslavia's Aleksinac coal mine today as rescue workers tried to reach the scene of a fire last week which killed 90 miners, Tanjug news agency said.

According to Belgrade radio, one person was hurt in the methane gas explosion but mine officials said there were no serious injuries.

On Friday miners were trapped underground when fire broke out in the mine, in the Republic of Serbia 200 km (140 miles) south of Belgrade.

Tanjug today put the number of dead in Friday's accident at 90 after two miners said at the weekend that they had reported sick and were not on shift at the time of the disaster.

Four people have been arrested in connection with the fire, one of Yugoslavia's worst pit disasters, which mine officials said started during welding work 700 metres (2,300 feet) below ground.

Greek leaders fail to form a unity government

ATHENS, Nov 20, (Reuters): Greek political leaders failed again today to form an all-party national unity government to end a 15-day crisis with debts piling up and foreign policy frozen.

"The talks have ended for today. The party leaders will meet again tomorrow," press ministry spokesman Yannis Poutos told reporters. He declined to give any details of the talks.

Conservative, Socialist and Communist

Party leaders have met for the past four days to try to resolve the crisis which has paralysed action on Greece's pressing problems.

Those include a budget deficit nearing 22 per cent of Greece's total output of goods and services, or gross domestic product, and a decision on whether to shut US bases by next June as threatened.

Each of the main parties failed to find coalition partners after elections on Nov 5, prompting the attempts to form a short-term

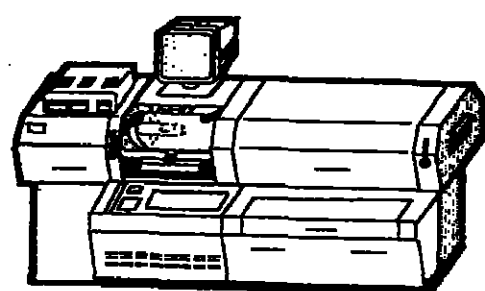
all-party government to give election-weary voters a break from the ballot box.

Political commentators have given the leaders no better than a 50-50 chance of succeeding, and heading off the third election this year, expected on Dec 17, if talks fail.

The new 300-seat parliament was sworn in today, but if the talks break down it may be dissolved by President Christos Sartzetakis this week before voting on a single law.

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SUBCONTINENT

Tamils fleeing from fighting

COLOMBO, Nov 20, (Agencies): Hundreds of Tamils and Muslims fled the eastern Ampara district today after fierce fighting between the Sri Lankan Army and an outlawed Tamil militia, witnesses reported.

In southern and central Sri Lanka, at least 40 people were reported killed in a continuing conflict between the government and Sinhalese extremist People's Liberation Front, despite last week's capture and killing of the Front's top three leaders.

A government official said the widow of the Front's supreme leader has been placed under guard in a Colombo luxury hotel and is seeking permission to leave the country with her five children.

The fighting in the Ampara district erupted in the power vacuum left by Indian peacekeeping troops who pulled out last month as part of the phased withdrawal that is to be completed by Dec 31.

At least 100 people were killed on Thursday and Friday when Tamil militiamen attacked a half-dozen police stations and then battled with government soldiers and police commandos, according to government accounts.

A military spokesman in Colombo said a battle raged for two and one-half hours yesterday after 200 members of the so-called Tamil National Army (TNA) attacked an army camp at Kalmunai, 200 kilometres (125 miles) east of the capital.

Speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with government regulations, the spokesman said 10 soldiers were critically wounded but the attack was repelled. He gave no further casualty figures.

Residents in Batticaloa, 32 kilometres (20 miles) north of Kalmunai, said hundreds of Muslim and Tamil civilians were fleeing from Ampara and Kalmunai and seeking refuge in Hindu temples, Christian churches and schools.

The Tamil revolt started in 1983 when militants sought to create a separate homeland from their ethnic minority in northeastern Sri Lanka. More than 11,000 people have been killed in fighting and massacres since then.

The government's efforts to arrange a peace pact with the Tamils in 1987, and the accompanying arrival of an Indian peacekeeping force, spurred a Sinhalese backlash.

At least 6,000 people have been killed in confrontations between Sinhalese extremists and the government.

A government official said bodies of 30 young Sinhalese men were found this morning at Welimade, about 130 kilometres (80 miles) southeast of Colombo. The victims had been shot and their bodies partially burned, he said.

He added that police were investigating whether the killings were the work of pro-government vigilante squads, whom the government frequently accuses of killing suspected members of the People's Liberation Front.

Eight more Sinhalese were killed yesterday or early today in clashes between the Front and government troops in the central and southern hills, the official added. He also said a Sinhalese soldier suspected of belonging to the Front shot and killed two fellow soldiers yesterday while on patrol at tea plantation.

"The latest developments in the East have complicated the problems for the government," a diplomat said.

Up to 300 people including security men, Tamil fighters and civilians were reported killed at the weekend when an illegal Tamil militia attacked five police stations and an army camp in eastern Ampara district.

Diplomats and analysts had predicted bloody clashes between the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), which controls the North-East Council, and its arch rival the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam when Indian troops leave.

Instead, fighting erupted between Sri Lankan security forces and the illegal Tamil National Army (TNA).

The police stations had been reinforced days earlier by the Sri Lankan Army after the withdrawal of Indian troops from the district.

Indians will go to polls with desire for change

NEW DELHI, Nov 20, (Reuters): The world's biggest electorate is in the mood for change and looks ready to throw Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party out of power for only the second time since India became independent.

India is at a crossroads. Its 498 million voters start deciding on Wednesday which path leads to the bright future.

Not only is the ruling party's grip on government at risk. Many senior Congress leaders are muttering about dropping Rajiv if he fails to lead the party

back to power.

That could mean the end of the Nehru dynasty. Rajiv, his grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru and his mother Indira Gandhi have ruled India between them for 37 of the country's 42 years of independence.

Political analysts, diplomats and Reuters reporters roaming the electrically charged north all report a desire for change.

The growing urban middle classes have prospered during Rajiv's five years in power but are generally sympathetic to opposition charges that the

prime minister and his party are corrupt and want them to go.

Many villagers complain their lives have changed little and say they have nothing to lose by voting for the opposition.

In India, however, moods often change in the last few days before polling. The country's first election held under normal circumstances could yet surprise the pundits.

India's previous eight elections since independence in 1947 have been preceded by wars, deaths of leaders and, once, a state of emergency.

Not this time. Rajiv has faced none of the cataclysms that produced waves of sympathy or revulsion in the past.

What is unusual in the 1989 elections, which the country's two leading opinion polls suggest Rajiv will lose heavily, is an almost united opposition.

Congress has never won a majority of the popular vote despite ruling India for all but two years of independence in a first-past-the-post system based on the model of its former British rulers.

Even in the last elections in 1984, when it won 415 seats in the 545-member parliament on a huge wave of sym-

pathy after the assassination of Indira Gandhi, Congress got only 48 per cent.

A three or four per cent swing would end its absolute majority. The latest poll suggests an eight or nine per cent swing.

"The unity of the opposition has a simple arithmetical impact. By not splitting the vote, the opposition picks up 75 seats, which means a swing of 150," said Pranay Roy, India's leading pollster.

But in India, a vast and varied country of 800 million people, not much is

simple and two huge questions hang over the Nov 22, 24, and 26 elections.

Rajiv has lost a hefty chunk of his traditional Muslim vote in a massive and often violent Hindu-Muslim furor over a sacred site both faiths claim in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

But how many Hindu votes has he picked up in exchange?

The other big question concerns memories. In 1977, Indira Gandhi ended a two-year state of emergency thinking she would be swept back to power on a wave of gratitude.

Campaigning ends in parts of India

Congress keeps fingers crossed

(Continued from Page 1)

minister.

Boosted by a poll predicting defeat for Rajiv's Congress Party, the opposition leaders were confident this week's general elections would give them only their second chance to form the Indian government since independence from Britain in 1947.

"Next week the National Front will be in power," said V. P. Singh.

Cheering

"You fight this battle for me and I will fight your battle against corruption in New Delhi," Singh told cheering crowds in the north Indian district of Fatehpur where he is standing as a candidate.

"Everywhere there is a strong reaction against Congress. There is a veritable anger in the country," Aji Singh, Janata Dal general secretary, told another rally in north Indian town of Baraut.

Aji Singh said Rajiv had

presided over a massive deterioration in public morals, adding:

"Five years back Rajiv Gandhi gave the slogan that he would remove corruption but now there is corruption right to the topmost level. Nothing happens without bribery."

Opposition leaders concentrated their campaigns on Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state. Fatehpur and Baraut are both in Uttar Pradesh.

Congress spokesman Anand Sharma dismissed the opinion polls and said the ruling party had evidence that its prospects had improved significantly over the past few days.

"It is not these polls and exit polls which count, it is the popular choice that counts," he said.

The National Front is posing the toughest challenge to Rajiv's Congress (I) Party since 1977, when the ruling monolith suffered its only general election loss.

Boyed by anger over corruption, high prices and Rajiv's failure to fulfill rising aspirations among India's 820 million people, the Front is being helped by informal pacts with three other parties under which only one

opposition contender will face a Congress (I) Party contestant in more than 400 races to avert splits in the anti-government vote.

The Election Commission ordered an end to active campaigning today in the states holding polls on Wednesday to provide a cooling-off period. Election laws, however, allow candidates and supporters to conduct low-key 11th-hour door-to-door stumping.

Among the states to vote on Wednesday will be Jammu and Kashmir, where the picturesque Kashmir valley has been rocked all year by violence by Muslim fundamentalists demanding secession from mostly Hindu India and union with the neighbouring Islamic Republic of

Pakistan.

Dozens of people have died and hundreds have been injured in the unrest.

Extremist groups have called a boycott of polling for two seats in the Kashmir valley—a third was awarded uncontested—which is centred on the state's summer capital of Srinagar, 400 miles (650 km) north of New Delhi.

To discourage violence, hundreds of troops in full battle gear staged show-of-force "flag marches" for several hours today through areas of the old city, preceded by tanks and armoured cars.

State officials said troops would stage daily marches pending the completion of ballot counting.

Thomas Abraham adds: Leaders of Rajiv's Congress Party kept their fingers crossed as India prepares to choose a new government.

It was a short but bitter campaign, a no-holds-barred effort to woo voters that was marked by charges and counter-charges and scattered violence.

Rajiv, seeking a second term in office, faces his toughest test in what has been described as the most crucial elections in independent India.

All indications are that the ruling party faces an uphill task in its quest to return to power, the confident claims of its spokesman notwithstanding. The party today claimed it would get a minimum of 338 seats and a maximum of 361, based on an analysis of the feedback received from around the country.

But the mood among senior party leaders indicated all was not hunky-dory. One of them went as far as to say things would have been different for the party if only Rajiv had inducted more new faces in the list of candidates. A people wishing strongly for a change were not likely to vote for the same old faces, he said.

This leader also felt the ruling party campaign could have focussed more on its ability to provide a stable government than taking on the opposition on issues such as communalism and so on.

Meanwhile, the opposition was in a buoyant mood today, predicting that the National Front would get an absolute majority and that the Janata Dal, one of its constituents, would emerge as the single largest party.

Rajiv, in his campaign speeches, kept raising the question of how the front hoped to govern when it was contesting only 315 seats. The front's answer to this is that they have fielded candidates only in places where they had an "overwhelming chance of success" and that their success rate, therefore, was bound to be high.

Three major opinion polls conducted in the last two weeks have not helped to raise the Congress spirits, with two predicting defeat for it. The third said the Congress would get between 260 and 290 seats, enough to form a government on its own.

The campaign was marked by the liberal use of high-technology, with most parties using audio and video cassettes to influence the voters.

Besides, the Congress launched an advertisement blitz through the print media, a strategy that was widely criticised and caused dismay to even Congressmen. Many felt the ads were too "high-brow" for an Indian election.

The ads were basically a negative campaign, playing mainly on the voters' fears than offering him any hope for the future. Some of the themes that figured in the ads included the possible breaking up of India.



Election campaign

A cavalcade of horses is led by an elephant to attract voters during a campaign procession in Bombay. The procession is in support of actor-turned-politician Sunil Dutt contesting parliamentary elections on Rajiv's party ticket. (Reuters wirephoto)

Holding polls a Herculean task

Democracy Indian-style

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): Democracy will reach the remotest corners of India this week, with election officials travelling by camel, elephant or even on foot.

When India's 498 million voters, the world's biggest electorate, go to the polls to decide Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's fate they will be watched by 3.5 million officials charged with ensuring fair play.

In a country that includes the high snow peaks of the Himalayas, remote rain forests, deserts and the shifting sands of the Ganges delta, that is no easy task.

"Whatever means of communication there are in India, you can be sure we shall be using them," chief election commissioner R.V.S. Peri Sastri said in an interview.

A greater problem for some polling officers will be India's traditional election tactics of booth capturing and "Gondas" trying to make sure their man wins by stuffing the ballot boxes.

Peri Sastri acknowledged the dangers but said the problem was limited to parts of volatile north India that Rajiv must win if he is to get another five-year term.

"We are trying to frustrate any booth capturing. We will be merciless in ordering reprisals where there is fraud," he said.

Criminals, long a fringe ingredient in Indian politics, are increasingly seeking a more prominent role. The 6,112 candidates competing for seats in the 545-member Parliament include convicted murderers, bandits and gang leaders.

For the first time 18 to 20-year-olds will be allowed to cast their ballot, adding 35 million voters to the rolls—more than the electorate of many nations.

More than a million armed police and paramilitary officers will guard nearly 600,000 polling stations around the country for the three days of voting on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

The government has ordered 450,000 litres (100,000 gallons) of indelible ink to mark the fingers of those who have voted and will spend a total of 1.66 billion rupees (\$100 million)—twice as much as in the last election in 1984.

Under Indian election law, no voter should be forced to walk more than two km (1.2 miles) to cast his ballot, which means polling officers have to be sent into the remotest areas.

In the desert of western Rajasthan, that means taking ballot boxes and papers, plus a supply of ink, to remote communities living among the sand dunes along the border with Pakistan.

In the northeast, they will be going by elephant or on foot into the mountains of Arunachal Pradesh that borders China.

In Buddhist Ladakh, they have to trek across a wasteland more than 3,000 metres (10,000 feet) high to set up a polling station for just four people. The turnout is usually 100 per cent, Peri Sastri said.

Some polling parties were dispatched 10 days before voting was due to start but Peri Sastri hopes to have results from all seats being contested within two days of the last day of voting.

"The difficulties appear immense but they are not really," he said. "We have had eight elections since independence (in 1947) and we have a tried and tested system."

122 candidates

NEW DELHI, Nov 20, (Kuna): Bhiwani parliamentary constituency in northern state of Haryana has distinction of having the largest number of candidates for the coming Lok Sabha elections. As many as 122 candidates are in the field and of them 18 are from a single village—Tala.

The number of independent candidates has posed several administrative problems—finding available sufficient number of polling boxes and printing a ballot paper. The ballot paper is of the size of a newspaper.

However, the main contenders in the constituency are former defence minister of India Bansilal (the Congress (I) candidate) and Transport Minister of Haryana State Dharanvir (the Janata Dal nominee).

The officials are also finding difficulty in finding a counting enclosure big enough to accommodate all the independent candidates on the day of counting. Each candidate is allowed to enter the counting along with his counting agents. The constituency has over 900,000 voters.

Trained pigeons

NEW DELHI, Nov 20, (Kuna): Seven hundred trained pigeons will be deployed to bridge the communication gap in remote and far polling booths of eastern state of Orissa where other sophisticated and modern communication network may fail.

The trained pigeons in active police service in this economically backward state had a record of distinguished services during the past elections. The birds were also used during natural disasters, when communication infrastructure had failed.

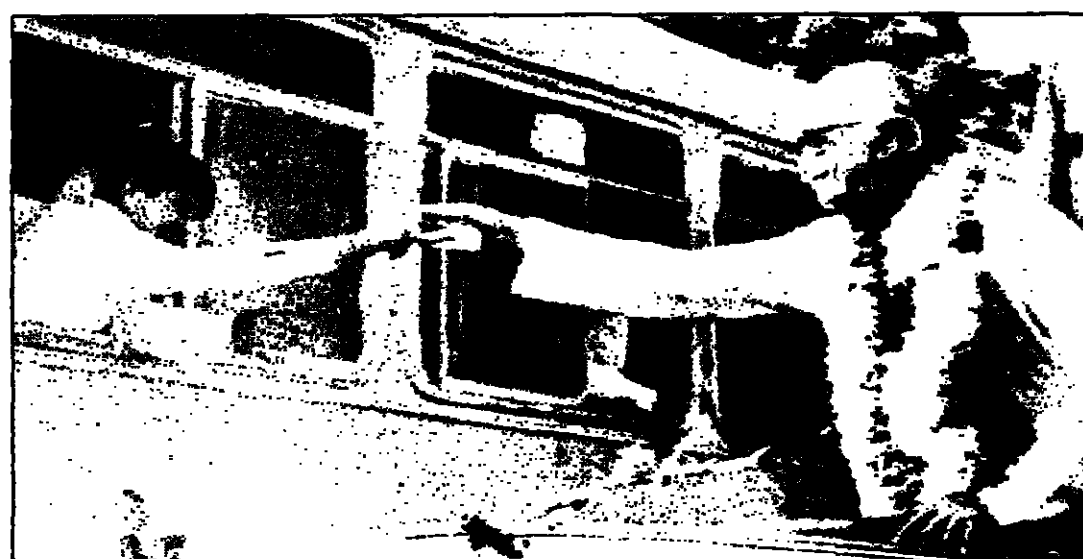
This was disclosed by the director-general of police, P.C. Ratho at Orissa. He said the pigeons will be mainly used in the far flung area to get the latest election results. The birds will convey messages immediately and without any trouble.

The pigeons carry messages from one area to another and help the law and order machinery to monitor the situation also.

The director-general also ruled out booth capturing in Orissa.



Bharatiya Janata Party workers use a three wheeled scooter taxi to campaign for their candidate in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)



The head of Bharatiya Janata Party, Lal Krishen Advani, is greeted by a young supporter in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Untouchables in north India see ray of hope in new party, desert Congress in hordes

BADSERI, India, (Reuters): Badain belongs to the lowest level of India's caste-ridden society—and he's had enough of promises from politicians he never sees.

"There is no justice in our country. If you are honest you get the boot but if you are dishonest you are okay," said Badain, a Harijan or untouchable.

Half the people in Badseri, a prosperous village in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, are also Harijans.

They are not interested in the main opposition National Front Alliance either.

Instead they plan to vote for the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) which has emerged as a major third force in north India, especially among the poor and those of low caste.

In an interview two months ago before the elections were announced, 34-year-old Badain was too busy scratching a living repairing millstones or working as a farm labourer at five rupees (30 cents) a day to take much interest in politics.

Vigorous campaigning, especially by BSP leader Kanshi Ram, has changed all that.

"If BSP comes to power we will be heard. It will be good for Harijans because it is fighting for justice," said Badain on the eve of the elections starting on Wednesday.

He considers corruption the most important election issue—not the Bofors arms scandal that has been drawing international attention, but graft on a much more personal level.

A month ago district officials visited Badseri and discovered Badain did not have a licence to run his millstone workshop. It cost him 400 rupees (\$25) to buy their silence.

But then came the police, saying they were the

ones he should have bribed not the district officials.

They too had to be paid off.

Two years ago Badain was granted a loan to set up his own mill. He never picked up the cash because the bank manager and another local official wanted a 20 per cent cut.

"People are angry because they are being taken for a ride. We are angry with the Congress Party," Badain said.

Harijans form nearly 21 per cent of India's population of 800 million people. Many political analysts believe the BSP will pick up many of their votes—mainly at the expense of Congress.

'Safe plastic bullets killed 122'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 20. (Agencies): Israeli troops have killed 122 Palestinians with plastic bullets since they were introduced in July 1988 to reduce deaths in battling an Arab uprising, an army spokesman said yesterday.

Army figures released yesterday said 525 Palestinians, 11 Israeli civilians and eight soldiers have been killed inside the occupied territories in the 23-month-old revolt.

It said 68 of the dead Palestinians were

children under 14.

The army introduced plastic bullets to reduce the number of casualties inflicted by soldiers who opened fire to disperse stone-throwing demonstrators fighting Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza strip.

An unofficial toll compiled by Reuters has counted 579 Palestinians killed by Israeli troops or civilians and 44 Jews killed in the uprising. It included Jews killed inside the green line that divides pre-

1967 Israel from the territories.

The army said 8,704 Palestinians, 793 Israeli civilians and 1,392 soldiers have been injured in the West Bank and Gaza strip since December 1987, the start of the uprising.

The army is currently holding 9,221 Palestinians in jails — 1,716 of them in administrative detention without trial and about 4,400 awaiting trial or indictment, a spokesman said.

The statistics showed the army has des-

troys 244 houses in the occupied territories to punish Palestinian activists.

Troops shot and wounded eight demonstrators in the Gaza Strip yesterday, Palestinians said.

A Palestinian informant for Israel's security service arrested on suspicion of strangling seven Jews and Arabs in Tel Aviv said yesterday he was motivated by religious reasons and killed the victims as "prostitutes and collaborators" with Israel.

'Don't reject Baker plan'

CAIRO, Nov 20. (Agencies): For the first time, President Hosni Mubarak today publicly advised the PLO not to reject a US plan for an Israeli-Palestinian peace dialogue.

Nevertheless, a report from Tunis by Egypt's Middle East News Agency indicated the PLO and Israel remain far apart on the plan proposed last month by Secretary of State James A. Baker III.

Mubarak denied reports published today that the PLO had sent its reply to the Baker plan to Cairo for relay to Washington.

He said Cairo had not received the PLO reply "until now." But a PLO emissary later arrived from the Tunisian capital, and Mena said his mission was to tell Egypt the Palestinian position.

Mubarak told reporters he hoped it was "rejection."

"President Mubarak expressed his hope that the reply will not be negative," Middle East News Agency said without giving the President's exact words.

He added: "We do not put pressure on anyone, but we must help to push the process forward."

The comments, made after Mubarak welcomed Cyprus President George Vassiliou for a three-day official visit, marked something of a change in Egypt's stance. Previously, Mubarak had said Egypt consults regularly with the PLO on peace moves and "adopts" whatever decisions the group makes.

Baker proposed the dialogue between Israel and a Palestinian delegation to prepare the ground for Israeli-proposed elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The elections would be to choose Palestinian delegates for talks with Israel on interim autonomy in the two territories. Negotiations on a final settlement would be held later.

Israel has told the United States it would accept the Baker proposal if the Americans provided some assurances designed mainly to exclude the PLO from negotiations and to confine the preliminary dialogue to the Israeli election plan.

The PLO recently requested clarifications of the Baker plan and got a reply through Egypt. PLO leaders were reported meeting in the Tunisian capital last week to formulate a final answer to the proposal.

In Monday's dispatch from Tunis, Middle East News Agency said PLO leader Yasser Arafat sent Gamal Al-Sourany, a member of the PLO's executive committee, with a message to Mubarak explaining the organization's position. The envoy arrived in early afternoon.

The agency quoted Palestinian sources in Tunis as saying the PLO is holding to its insistence that it alone has the right to choose delegates to the dialogue and that the dialogue agenda be open and unconditional. Both demands run counter to the Israeli position.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who announced the election proposal last May, has insisted throughout there can be no question of Israel relinquishing the West Bank and Gaza in any settlement.

Self-rule offer to Kurds in Iran

Rafsanjani agreed

BAGHDAD, Nov 20. (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani agreed to give rebellious Kurds limited self-rule, but the plan was torpedoed when Kurdish leader Abdul Rahman Qassemloo was assassinated in Vienna, Qassemloo's widow said today.

Tape recordings of several meetings between Qassemloo and Iranian emissaries she received after Qassemloo's assassination July 13 showed that Rafsanjani agreed last winter to grant Iran's six million Kurds limited self-rule after he was elected, she said.

Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, was elected Iran's President July 28.

Helen Qassemloo said that during the first round of talks held in Vienna last winter, Rafsanjani's envoys said he was ready to set up an elected Kurdish regional council, permit the Kurds to speak and teach their own language and appoint their own officials.

"The emissaries said that Rafsanjani was ready to allow the Kurds to have a greater say in running their affairs and he was ready to sign an agreement on condition there would be no reference to autonomy," she said.

The envoys explained that the word autonomy could encourage other minorities in Iran to press for similar rights that could create problems for Rafsanjani's administration.

Qassemloo, 59, whose Kurdish Democratic Party is fighting the Iranians from sanctuaries in Iraq, was shot at a secret rendezvous with Iranian agents in a Vienna apartment to discuss ending the rebellion against Tehran.

Qassemloo's widow, a Czech who lives in Paris with her two daughters, said Rafsanjani asked in return that the KDP disband its fighters, who are known as Peshmergas.

They intensified their mountain war against the Iranians after Qassemloo was assassinated.

The rebel chief's widow said that he was ready to accept Rafsanjani's terms and had convinced the KDP's leadership to approve them as well.

Under the agreement, a pro-Iranian Kurdish faction, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan led by veteran Jalal Talabani, would deploy in the Sardasht area of northwest Iran to oversee the demobilisation of KDP forces after Qassemloo and Rafsanjani signed a peace accord, Mrs Qassemloo said.

"They were supposed to play a peace-keeping role in the interim period leading to self-rule for the Iranian Kurds," she said.

Talabani, acted as a mediator between Qassemloo and Rafsanjani.

In return, he wanted Qassemloo to mediate a similar arrangement between Baghdad and the PUK. It is not known how far that effort got before Qassemloo was killed in Vienna.

Defence contract

PARIS, Nov 20. (Reuters): France, which from 1967 to 1971 sold five jet engines for the latest Israeli warplane.

The Foreign Ministry was not able to confirm it was the first major defence contract between the two countries since the embargo imposed by the late President Charles de Gaulle at the state of the six-day Arab-Israeli war.

The ministry's announcement came in the wake of a 48-hour visit to Paris by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Quake kills three

NICOSIA, Nov 20. (AP): A strong earthquake jolted Israel's southern coastal region between the two cities of Be'er Sheva and Ashdod, killing at least three people and injuring 15, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency said the quake measured six on the open-ended Richter scale, shaking the whole province of about one million people and destroying many homes.

An earthquake with an intensity of five on the Richter scale can cause serious damage.

ICRC protests

BEIRUT, Nov 20. (Reuters): The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) stopped work in Lebanon for the day today to protest at the abduction of two Swiss workers 45 days ago.

The Geneva-based humanitarian organisation, which helps Lebanon's war casualties, appealed for their immediate release.

The ICRC closed all its offices and clinics to condemn the abduction of Emmanuel Christen, 32, and Elio Erriquoz, 23, kidnapped in the southern port of Sidon on October 6.

"This grave and unacceptable act obstructs the work of the ICRC in favour of the war victims," an ICRC statement said.

Drug control

ABU DHABI, Nov 20. (Reuters): Agreement between producing and consumer states over drug control is unlikely and execution of users as well as traffickers would be desirable, an Egyptian interior minister said today.

"I cannot imagine there will be any form of co-operation between (drug) consuming states and producer states because their interests contradict," Zaki Badr told reporters without elaborating.

"If the decision were in my hand, I would execute even the (drug) abusers. I support introduction of the death penalty not only in Arab states but in all countries," he said.

Egypt has recently introduced capital punishment for drug smugglers.

Meeting postponed

KUWAIT, Nov 20. (Kuna): The Turkish-Bulgarian meeting, scheduled to be held in Kuwait during this month to discuss Muslim minority situation in Bulgaria, will be postponed to the beginning of December, senior diplomatic sources said today.

The sources added in a statement to a Kuwaiti daily newspaper, that the Turkish and Bulgarian governments did not set the date of the meeting which was supposed to be set with Kuwait.

The sources indicated that the reason the delay in setting the meeting's date was due to the current political developments in Bulgaria.

Sudan denies

KHARTOUM, Nov 20. (Reuters): The Sudanese government today denied a report that former Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi had been let out of jail and put under house arrest.

The state-controlled Khartoum daily Al Engaz Al Watani reported yesterday that Mahdi, the head of the democratic Unionist Party (DUP), Mohammed Osman Al Mirghani, and Hassan Al Toubali, leader of the National Islamic Front (NIF), had been freed from jail and placed under house arrest.

"What one newspaper published in this regard yesterday was totally unfounded," Information Minister Ali Shomou said.

Party legalised

ALGIERS, Nov 20. (Reuters): Algeria has legalised the socialist forces front led by prominent political exile Hocine Ait Ahmed, the Algerian news agency APS said today.

The party, known by its French initials FFS, is the slight opposition group to be legalised under sweeping democratic reforms to introduce multi-party politics to Algeria.

Ait Ahmed, 63, split from the ruling National Liberation Front in 1963 and has lived in exile in Switzerland since 1966.

Gulf meeting

TEHRAN, Nov 20. (Kuna): An international conference on "Gulf situation" begins here later today with 400 economic, political experts and researchers from Iran and other foreign countries taking part.

Radio Tehran, said during the three-day conference, the participants will discuss two topics, namely, the UN Security Council resolution 598 on settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict and the role of the media toward peace and stability of Gulf states.

Aoun extends death threat to successors

US considering to reopen embassy in north

BEIRUT, Nov 20. (Kuna): Head of the provisional military government Gen. Michel Aoun has threatened senior army officers of death if anyone accepts assuming the portfolio of army commander, a title he is currently holding, press reports disclosed today.

According to daily "Al-Safir", Gen. Aoun's threats of killing have now been extended to include military men beside lawmakers, politicians and pressmen.

The Maronite general, who was named acting prime minister by outgoing President Amin Gemayel last year when parliament was

unable to elect a new president, is adamantly opposing an Arab-brokered peace accord under which MP Rene Muawad was elected President of Lebanon last month.

President Muawad had already named former Acting Prime Minister Dr. Saleem Al-Hoss to form a new national conciliation government in accordance with the peace agreement, reached in Taif, Saudi Arabia, by 62 Lebanese lawmakers.

The agreement gained a widespread Arab and international support, but Gen Aoun rejected it because it does not call for speedy withdrawal



Christian ladies hold poster of army Commander Major-General Michel Aoun during a rally in East Beirut in support of the army chief. (Reuters wirephoto)

of Syrian troops from Lebanon.

As-Safir said today that at least five senior officers whose names were on the nomination list for the army chief have received "direct threats of bodily liquidation" from Gen. Aoun.

The paper said the killing threats also were addressed to families and relatives of the officers.

Under the terms of Lebanon's constitution, the president-elect has to name new commanders of the regular armed forces, including the army, the internal and general security forces.

As-Safir said Gen. Aoun had threatened the Phalangist Party chief George Saadeh, who is also a MP, that punishment would not be confined to him only but would extend also to all party's institutions.

Aoun's threats were conveyed to Saadeh by a member of the Lebanese Front, which groups all Christian political parties and factions of east Beirut, the daily reported.

The newspaper did not disclose the name of the front's member who relayed the threats to Saadeh nor did it mention his party, but it said, Gen. Aoun told Saadeh that he would hold the leadership of the Phalangist Party and militias responsible for any adverse stance that might be adopted by the party politicians.

The Phalangist political bureau is scheduled to meet later today to discuss possibility of the party joining in the new national

conciliation cabinet, which President Muawad entrusted Dr. Hoss to form.

Meanwhile, the US is seriously considering re-opening its embassy somewhere in north Lebanon, but outside Tripoli in a display of support to the new legitimacy in the country, well-placed American sources quoted Ambassador John McCarthy as informing Lebanese president.

The US ambassador to Lebanon, McCarthy presented his credentials to President Muawad yesterday.

The sources told a Kuwaiti daily in Washington that a number of American officials, including McCarthy, agreed that though extremely important, a lightning visit by the ambassador to Beirut to present his credentials, is not enough to drum up the needed support for the new president.

US officials affirmed that Washington must have permanent diplomatic presence in Lebanon, but neither in West Beirut because of the poor security situation there and nor in East Beirut, controlled by Gen. Aoun.

In case the US embassy is re-opened, said the sources, McCarthy and a limited number of his staff will return to Lebanon.

Ethiopia peace talks resume

NAIROBI, Nov 20. (AP): Ethiopian rebel and government officials opened a second round of preliminary peace talks today with each side accusing the other of impeding the negotiations aimed at settling Africa's oldest civil war.

The Ethiopian government delegation accused the rebels of engaging in "continued intensification of anti-peace propaganda," while the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front said the government was conducting a campaign of "fallacious arguments, disinformation and at times outright blackmail."

However, the two sides professed a desire to continue working together to complete the groundwork for substantive talks aimed at ending the 28-year-old secessionist conflict in Eritrea, Ethiopia's northernmost province.

Former US president Jimmy Carter is acting as neutral observer in the talks which began in September in Atlanta, Georgia, when the two sides agreed on nine mostly procedural issues.

Three questions remain to be resolved during the current round of talks: the designation of a chairman and co-chairman for further discussions; the naming of a seven-member observer team and the role it is to play; and the selection and duties of a secretariat.

President Daniel Arap Moi opened the new round of talks at a nearly hourlong public ceremony attended by diplomats, cabinet ministers and journalists. He encouraged both sides to continue working together to settle the fighting that has killed an estimated one million people.

Carter thanked Moi for providing Kenya as a venue for the Ethiopian talks as well as peace talks to begin on Dec 1 between Sudanese government and rebel officials and said Nairobi was rapidly becoming the "Geneva of Africa." The Swiss capital often has been the neutral site for talks between various warring parties.

Ashagre Yigletu, head of the



Carter (right) waits for the Ethiopian chief delegate Ashagre Yigletu (centre) and the EPLF chief delegate Al Amin Mohamed Sayed (left) for the opening session to start. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ethiopian government delegation, said it was his government's "fervent desire" to see the Nairobi talks successfully concluded and for the main substantive talks to be started as soon as possible.

The EPLF's chief negotiator, Al Amin Mohamed Sayed, used his opening speech at the talks to appeal for international aid to prevent a "catastrophic" new famine in the province following what he said was probably the worst drought ever to hit Eritrea.

Ceasefire must for relief: Bashir

KHARTOUM, Nov 20. (Reuters): The Sudanese government agreed to negotiate with southern rebels and said yesterday a ceasefire must be in place before relief flights could resume to famine-threatened south Sudan.

"There has to be a ceasefire and an end to existing tension in the south before (relief programme) Lifeline Sudan activities can resume," the official news agency Sana quoted Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir as saying.

General Bashir's statement coincided with an announcement in Nairobi that peace talks between his military government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) would start in the Kenyan capital on Dec 1.

Former US president Jimmy Carter, who met

Bashir in Khartoum on Saturday, told reporters in Nairobi that the two sides would enter the talks without preconditions.

"The issue of peace is a basic one which can only be settled through negotiations," Khartoum papers quoted Bashir as saying.

"We are ready to sit and negotiate with (SPLA leader John) Garang's movement anywhere and at any time."

The only previous talks between the government and the SPLA, held in Ethiopia in August, collapsed over the issue of whether Islamic sharia laws, hated by the mainly animist or Christian southerners, should be imposed.

The government banned relief flights to the south three weeks ago.

12,500 drug addicts, 575 traffickers detained in Iran

NICOSIA, Nov 20. (AP): More than 12,500 addicts and 575 traffickers have been arrested and about four tons of narcotics seized in the first nine days of a ten-day special drug crackdown in Iran, Tehran Radio reported yesterday.

The radio, quoted an unidentified official heading the crackdown as saying the latest moves by police yesterday broke up a drug-smuggling ring operating in the provincial cities of Yazd and Kerman. Five men were arrested and two tonnes of narcotics seized, he said.

In the previous eight days, the official said 12,500 addicts and 570 dealers were arrested

and 1,848 kilograms (4,065 pounds) of drugs seized.

The crackdown started Nov 11.

It is part of an Iran-wide campaign to fight drug addiction and dealing including death penalties for selling even small amounts of drugs and sending addicts to labour camps for rehabilitation.

Sunday's report said 800 addicts had been assigned to a labour camp in Kerman.

Meanwhile the Islamic Republic News Agency reported that Iran is asking Pakistan, believed to be one main source, along with Afghanistan and home-grown narcotics, of the drugs reaching Iranian addicts, to impose

Saudi-Yemeni 2-day talks end

ADEN, Nov 20. (Reuters): Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal has ended two days of talks in South Yemen on political and economic ties, the Aden news agency said today.

It said the Saudi delegation to the first meeting of the South Yemeni-Saudi ministerial committee returned home late yesterday.

Prince Saud met Ali Salem Al-Baidh, the secretary-general of the ruling Yemeni Socialist Party, the news agency said.

Discussions with Yemeni officials centred on ways of boosting and developing bilateral ties between the two countries.

The Saudi top diplomat said he was satisfied with the results accomplished, adding that these results will assist in expanding bilateral relations.

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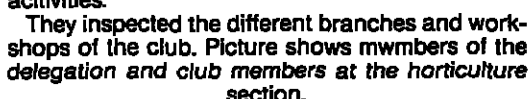
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The message concluded by saying that the gathering of sons of Muslims and Arabs in amicability and peace in the Peace and Friendship Games Championship was a historic achievement that was realised by HH.

He added that the insurance and co-operative sections at the college had few students particularly during the current academic year. He said that this was due to the fact that graduates from both these sections failed to find jobs.



Speaking of the future plans for the Food Department, she called for co-ordinating of efforts with the Ministry of Education, Kuwait University and the Ministry of Planning in order to avoid negative aspects and the current shortage in the personnel.

Speaking about any changes in the curriculum at foreign schools, Sharrah said that every school had its own educational system affiliated to the education boards of their countries. For example, English schools followed the educational system of UK, while the American schools followed those of the United

He said there were some problems regarding the laboratories at some schools. He explained that some buildings had not been originally designed as schools so they lacked suitable laboratories. Other buildings, however, had been designed as schools and had sophisticated laboratories. These schools were the New English School, Kuwait English School and Bayan English School, among others.

He said that the shift system in some schools was due to the lack of space and the large number of students. The schools, therefore, had morning and evening shifts to accommodate the students, and have more students using the same premises.

Sharrah said supervision of the schools was carried out with the co-operation of other departments of the ministry.

The supervision covered different matters, such as technical, educational and financial. Schools also approached the ministry for advice or help in solving problems.

The supervision helped to build trust between the schools and the ministry.

He said there were about 60,000 students in foreign schools and about 80,000 in Arab schools in 1988.

Middle East Agriculture '89 opens

FRENCH expertise in all aspects of food production, from horticultural and irrigation techniques through to food processing, storage and marketing, will be very much in evidence at Middle East Agriculture '89, the third Agriculture, Irrigation and Agri-Industry show which takes place at the Dubai World Trade Centre from November 20-23.

As many as 20 French organisations will be represented on a French national pavilion, either exhibiting independently or under the auspices of Adepta, the Association for the Promotion of International Exchanges of Food Products and Agro-Industry.

Livestock

In addition the French group will host a series of technical seminars on Wednesday Nov 22 and Thursday Nov 23 covering seeds, irrigation, storage, the date sector, agro-industry technique, artificial insemination and embryo transfer, the rearing of rabbits and ducks in warm climates and respiratory disease in broilers.

of food and irrigation. The company has a much in the Middle East. In 1989, the company was awarded a contract by the Industrial Development Corporation of Dubai for the construction of a 100,000 sq m pavilion, under the supervision of the company, for the 1992 World Fair. The pavilion will be a major attraction for the fair and will be a landmark building in the city of Dubai.

Participating under the auspices of Adepta are some 10 companies including the representative body of French seed producers, GNIS, grain storage experts Phenix Roures Silex and the Grain Equipment French Export Group representing manufacturers of storage and handling equipment. Three companies in the agro-industrial field are Prepac Sarl, specialists in liquid packaging, Clextral, who use extrusion technology in the processing of food products, and Fad-

come who offer turnkey consultancy in the production of animal feeds, concentrates and additives. APV Pavallier provide equipment for bakeries. Irrifrance manufacture specialised irrigation equipment and Total Agro-Systems are experts in propagation techniques for date palms.

The strength of the French participation at Middle East Agriculture '89 is evidence of their commitment to this important market. They join over 80 exhibitors from more than 15 countries around the world, all of whom can provide technology, expertise and equipment relevant to the needs of the farmers of the Arab Gulf.

Middle East Agriculture '89 will be open from 10.00/13.00 and 16.30/20.00 hrs daily from Monday 20 to Thursday 23 November. Visitors from throughout the Gulf involved in all aspects of agricultural production will find much to interest them. Tickets are available from the organiser's regional representative, Abdullah Mohammed (Tel: Dubai 372200).

Two Kuwaitis, identified as Amer A and Nasser F, have been caught by security men of the Capital Governorate and charged with committing various thefts, a statement by the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department said.

It added that the men had stolen several motorcycles and car tyres, and also broken into a number

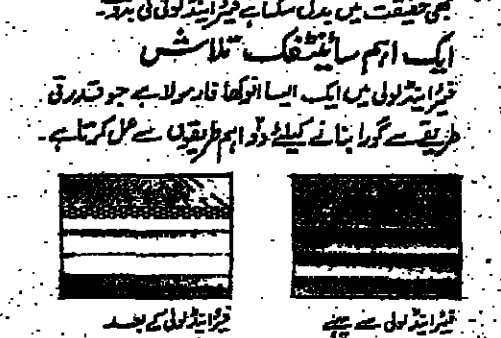
The men, who had been caught red-handed, were referred to the authorities for further investigations.



The Royal Mint, UK, launched Gold Bullion Coin for the UAE market on October 21, 1989. The press launch was held in Dubai and was attended among others by Andre Bisang, director Middle East, World Gold Council and B.D. Williams, marketing director, Royal Mint, UK. A reception at the residence of the British consul and a party in honour of the trade thrown by the distributors, Shattaf Jewellers, were part of the launch celebrations.

13, 1987, and was the first new gold British coin to be issued for 150 years. In 1987, it was voted 'Coin of the Year' by experts in the USA.

The Britannia is available in 4 sizes - 1oz., 1/2oz., 1/4oz. and 1/10oz. It is legal tender in the UK and tradeable internationally through all major gold markets and hundreds of retail branches of banks, bullion dealers, coin dealers, jewellers or wherever gold is traded. The Britannia Gold Coin will soon be launched in other Gulf countries.



Malek Bros. Co. P.O. Box 23169, Safat, Kuwait. Phone: 2445724/2465118, Telex: 23133 DAKIKA KT, Fax: 2448514.

هكذا من اجل

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

REMEMBER, it is as easy to marry a rich woman as a poor woman — William Thackeray, English writer (1811-1863).

Strategic arms treaty in sight

Obstacles litter the road

LONDON, (Reuters): Beside the blue waters of Lake Geneva, US and Soviet negotiators are entering what they believe is the last lap on their way to the most far-reaching arms control agreement of all time.

Hundreds of obstacles still litter the road to a Strategic Arms (Start) Treaty designed to halve the superpowers' arsenals of long-range nuclear missiles and bombers within seven years.

But both sides now seem confident of success in what one US official called "the longest, most complicated diplomatic agreement ever negotiated."

"An agreement is in sight, this is the last phase of the negotiating process," said a Western official familiar with the talks. The way has been opened "to the conclusion of the Start Treaty," agrees a Soviet diplomat.

No one expects the treaty to be ready when US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet aboard warships in the Mediterranean on Dec 2-3.

Before this week's announcement, of that meeting, diplomats had also been tactfully playing down suggestions by Bush that the pact could be completed for a previously announced summit scheduled for next spring or summer in the United States.

But, despite statements by both Washington and Moscow that no concrete decisions will come from the December summit, negotiators are bound to look to it to give another big push to the talks by clearing away political obstacles.

The Start talks, successor to the earlier Salt agreements which sought to limit but not reduce the superpowers' nuclear arsenals, began seven years ago.

But they have only made serious headway since the 1986 Reykjavik summit, which set ceilings for each side of 6,000 nuclear warheads aboard a maximum 1,600 strategic launchers. A launcher can be a ground or submarine-based missile or a long-range bomber.

That would still be enough to destroy the world many times over, but even so, a huge amount of nuclear weaponry would have to be scrapped. Independent experts say that, under Start counting rules, the United States currently has nearly 10,000 and the Soviet Union almost 11,000 strategic warheads.

A rush to complete the Start treaty before the US administration of Ronald Reagan ended last January ran out of steam, largely because the two sides, who signed a treaty in 1987 to ban medium-range missiles, lost the political will.

That will has now been re-kindled, with both Bush and Gorbachev anxious for foreign policy successes.

Several breakthroughs occurred when US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met in the American state of Wyoming in September.

The Soviet Union dropped its refusal to sign a Start treaty unless there was agreement on measures to curb the US 'Star Wars' programme for anti-missile defences.

This had been perhaps the biggest obstacle. The superpowers had been trying to agree a date when they might withdraw from their 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, which bans deployment of Star Wars devices, but had made little headway.

The United States, for its part, agreed at Wyoming to lift its opposition to mobile ground-launched missiles, which Moscow has deployed, provided Congress adequately funded the two varieties which Washington is developing.

As a result of these advances, the two sides now report a reinvigorated atmosphere at Geneva.

Moscow's admission last month that the controversial radar station being built at Krasnoyarsk would violate the ABM treaty, as the Americans had long argued, was seen as further evidence of a conciliatory spirit. The radar will now be dismantled.

Nevertheless, the 300-page draft treaty text what the two sides are working on still contains hundreds of bracketed passages, indicating areas of disagreement, according to sources close to the negotiations.

The most important remaining obstacles concern cruise missiles, low-flying drones that can be fired from ships or aircraft.

The Soviet Union has proposed a limit of 400 nuclear and 600 conventional sea-launched cruise missiles (SLCMS). The United States, which is ahead in the technology, merely says each side should declare how many it plans to deploy.

At Wyoming, the Russians said a SLCM agreement need not be part of the Start treaty text. Since they are still insisting on resolving the issue before signing start, the import of this concession is not clear, but some Western officials hope they may be starting to move towards the US position.

Air-launched cruise missiles are also causing problems. How many should one assume a bomber is carrying? Ten, say the Americans. As many as the bomber can hold, say the Soviets.

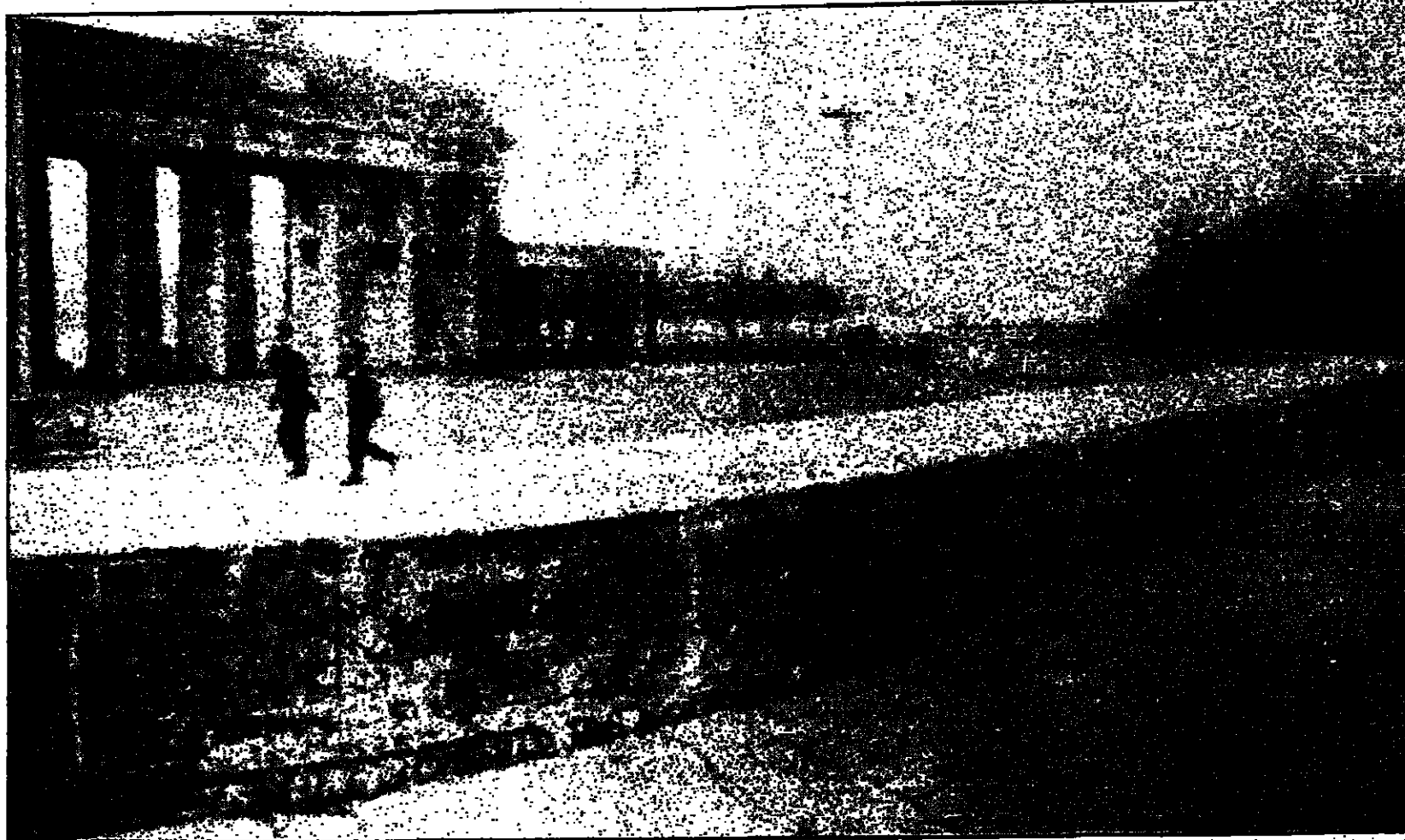
If these hurdles can be overcome, the negotiators still face a daunting task trying to devise a system of monitoring compliance with the agreement that will satisfy critics, especially in the US Senate which must ratify the accord.

The superpowers have some experience of "verification" techniques as a result of their medium-range missile pact, but Start verification will be far more complex, involving possibly thousands of inspectors and costing many millions of dollars.

A team of American scientists is expected in Geneva in the next few weeks to demonstrate to the Russians a scheme for tagging missiles, so that each rocket would carry a unique signature and no illegal ones could be hidden away.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1759 — Prussian Army of Friedrich Von Finck capitulates at Maxen, Germany.
- 1806 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte issues Berlin decrees, declaring blockade of Britain.
- 1855 — Sweden joins Britain, France and Turkey in alliance against Russia.
- 1877 — Thomas A Edison announces invention of the phonograph in the United States.
- 1983 — Western border areas of Czechoslovakia are forcibly incorporated in German Reich.
- 1956 — US General Assembly censures Soviet Union for its action in Hungary.
- 1962 — China agrees to ceasefire on India-China border.
- 1963 — Roman Catholic Vatican Council authorizes use of vernacular instead of Latin in the sacraments.
- 1967 — Violent student riots break out in Egypt.
- 1975 — Vietnamese governments in Hanoi and Saigon agree on speedy merger as key to unification of the nation under communist rule.
- 1976 — Syrian Army completes its final phase of occupation of Lebanon.
- 1977 — Estimated 3,000 people are believed to have perished in cyclone that strikes southeastern India, and entire villages are submerged by tidal waves.
- 1987 — Riot police stand guard to prevent violence by rival supporters as presidential candidates in South Korea trade charges of corruption and cruelty.
- 1988 — Recently resigned head of Soviet Space Research Agency says both Soviet and US space shuttle programmes are costly mistakes.



East German border guards patrol deserted Berlin Wall near the Brandenburg gate on Nov 13. (Reuters wirephoto)

Two-faced Berlin Wall

People kept in, thought kept out

AP: The Wall of Berlin was two-faced. It kept people in. It kept thought out.

The human mind is not so easily caged.

It began with the unnatural dawn of floodlights at 2 am on Aug 13, 1961. Berlin woke that Sunday to a 25-mile (40 kms) tangle of barbed wire along the border of the Soviet zone of occupation. Later it became cinder block. Then concrete.

In a fateful and still disputed decision at the climax of World War II, US Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower left Berlin to the invading Soviets. The allied commander put military victory above symbolic politics. The Soviets did not. When the first allied troops reached Berlin in July 1945, they found the clocks set to Moscow time.

Churchill's rhetorical iron curtain became reality. In 1948, the Soviets made it a flash point for war. They closed off Berlin from the west, 85 miles (136 kms) away.

"The city has no military value," said Bernard Montgomery, the British general who never forgave Ike for blocking his plan to take the city four years before. "Better to be a live dog than a dead lion," said a war-weary West Berliner.

Lucius Clay was of sterner stuff.

"I do not believe the Soviets mean war now," the US commander in Germany cabled Washington. "However, if they do, we might as well find out now... We cannot afford to be bluffing."

The resulting Berlin airlift was a world turned inside out. Allied pilots, many of whom had bombed the city into rubble, now flew round-the-clock missions to supply West Berlin's near-starving 2 million people. The very rubble was used to lengthen landing fields.

There was only enough coal for generators to supply two hours of cooking a day. The survival diet was based on the most nutritious for the least weight. Seventeen ounces of bread a day. Two ounces of prepared meat or powdered eggs. By the time the Soviets ended the blockade the following summer, American and British airmen had flown in 2,325,808 tons of supplies.

An iron curtain had not worked. Try a concrete wall.

By 1961, a sixth of the East Germans — some 3 million people — had fled to the West since the end of the war. The hemorrhage of youth and brains reached 1,000 people a day as the wall went up.

On that Sunday, trains and subways were halted at the East Berlin border. Phone calls didn't go through. The island of Berlin suddenly became two worlds, sharing only a common sky.

The coils of barbed wire snaked across backyard vegetable gardens while occupants stared from balconies only feet from the border. Fence posts became stakes driven into the heart of families, friendships. A woman bent with age who had come 25 miles (40 kms) to pay a call on a friend was turned away by police as the friend sobbed from a third-floor window.

"You must be crazy," said an onlooker to the officers.

As East German workers began laying more permanent cinder block, an East German soldier blithely skipped over the wire for a picture worth many thousand words. By mid-September, the masonry stretched three kilometres (1.8 miles).

On Bernauerstrasse, a 77-year-old woman poised hesitatingly on a window ledge overlooking the border. After 15 minutes, as police battered down the door, she jumped, successfully.

A 6-year-old boy jumped from four floors safely into a fireman's net. Four others missed and died. In the first year, 14 heavy vehicles crashed through the wall. Klaus Bruske was killed by the only bullet that hit one.

On Aug 17, 1962, Peter Fechter, 18, broke for the wall. East German bullets stopped his flight at its base. For 50 minutes he lay unaided, moaning, "help me." West Germans threw first aid supplies to him. Too late. East German police finally carried his body away.

"Murderers," cried onlookers. German shepherds began patrolling the wall, tethered on wires like backyard dog runs. Human ingenuity met the challenge. One doctored car brought out 18 escapees. An Isotta, a mini-car hardly big enough for the drive, made it with an East German crammed in where the battery and heater usually were.

A West German rented a low-slung sports car and scooted under the border gate with his fiancée. An Argentine subsequently rented the same car. "Isn't that the car we had here lately?" asked a border guard. The Argentine shrugged in ignorance. And returned the car later with his fiancée jammed inside.

Police added barriers under the gates and began probing vehicles with precalibrated rods. So an East German girl sewed Soviet uniforms for three of her friends. They saluted smartly as they drove across the border. With her wedged under the front seat. A wooden cable spool with room for four people inside the drum made two safe trips across.

In 1963, a husband improvised a wide chair lift from an upper window of a ministry building near

the Wall and slid across with his wife and son. Years later, an enterprising archer duplicated the feat, shooting a cable over the wall with a bow and arrow.

In 1964, the Wall's longest tunnel — 500 feet (152 metres) — was begun in a toilet house in East Berlin. West Germans worked on the other end on weekends.

Fifty-seven escaped, including a 5-year-old boy. "There were no wild animals in the tunnel," he said.

One East German in 1968 avoided the Wall by rigging a tiny bicycle motor to propel a towed, 15 miles (24 kms) across the Baltic Sea to Denmark. He was immediately hired by a West German firm to make similar devices for water sports.

In 1979, an East German family with no aerial experience fashioned a balloon of bits and scraps and floated at 8,000 feet (2,438 metres) into Austria.

In 1984, two Zdzarsky crafted a plane of rods and canvas powered by a car motor and flew 60 miles (96 kms) to freedom.

In all, some 5,000, at least, made it under, through or over the wall. At least 79 did not.

On June 29, 1962, Siegfried Noffke began tunneling into East Germany to rescue his wife and child. Unaware that police had detected another tunnel right next to his, he was shot and killed as he emerged. That same year Dieter Wesa was shot down by men of his own East German Army Company as he tried to flee. His body fell by a sign declaring the wall a "bastion of peace."

Dieter Jentzen, 25, a jumper who was hospitalized two years with injuries suffered during his leap to freedom, was convinced the death toll would have been 10 times as high if the border police always shot to kill or shot at all.

In time, the Wall to West Berliners became the schandmauer, the wall of shame. Its two faces spoke better than words the ideologies it divided.

The East German side was unadorned, masonry gray. The other was bedecked with colours and graffiti like a New York subway car. International artists added their handiwork. At the main crossing of Checkpoint Charlie there was a snack bar, souvenir stands and a museum.

As the most visible barrier of the cold war — the ongoing history of World War II really — came tumbling down, it suddenly took on a human dimension it never had had.

"What will become of my job?" moaned an East German guard. His career resume, for all of that, should mention some hard-earned knowledge.

Brazil gives lesson in democracy

Tough issues remain

SAO PAULO, (Reuters): While civil war raged in El Salvador and Maoist guerrillas vowed to mutilate voters in Peru, Latin America's biggest country, Brazil, provided an impressive example of democracy in action.

Brazilians voted last week in the most democratic presidential election in the country's 100-year history as a republic, inbucing the election campaign with an enthusiasm normally reserved for soccer or carnival.

The festive atmosphere defied economic crisis and in this vast country which covers half of South America, there wasn't any serious election violence. In Peru Maoist Shining Path guerrillas ordered Peruvians to boycott last Sunday's municipal elections and police say they have killed at least 10 people in reprisal for voting.

The Brazilian Communist Party legally participated for the first time since 1945. Also for the first time, illiterate men and women voted in presidential election. Illiterates, enfranchised in the mid-1980s, comprise about 20 per cent of Brazil's adult population.

The election sealed Brazil's return to democracy after the military government ruled from 1964 to 1985, but several major questions remain about how that democracy will evolve.

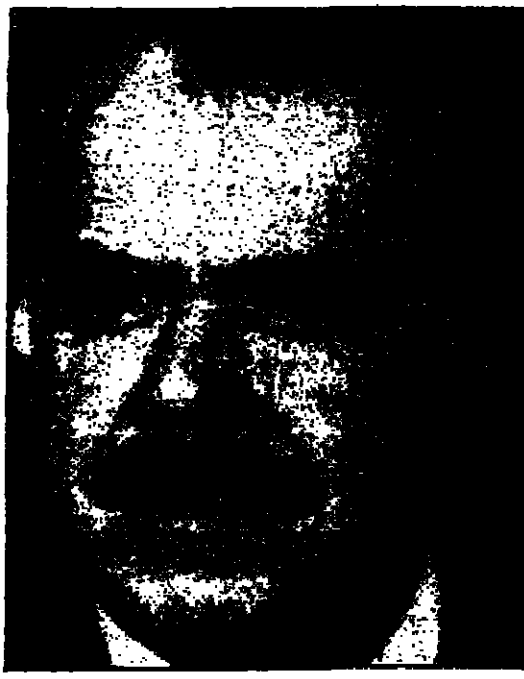
Still unknown is who will succeed Jose Sarney, a president who was never directly elected but who had the support of the influential military.

Right wing populist Fernando Collor de Mello took a comfortable first place in Wednesday's vote.

But late on Sunday the vote-counting continued and electoral authorities had not announced who would join Collor in the run-off on Dec 17.

Political analysts said it would almost certainly be Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of the Radical Workers' Party.

Another unknown is what role the military will play in Brazil's political life, analysts said.



Jose Sarney

No fewer than six military men have cabinet rank and analysts say the military have effectively placed limits on domestic and foreign policy during Sarney's government.

Brazilians in general and politicians in particular are uncomfortable with the issue of the military's political clout and it was nearly ignored during the election campaign.

Alfred Stepan of Columbia University, a specialist on the military question in Latin America, said in

Sunday's Jornal do Brasil newspaper that this was a bad sign.

"The theme was not sufficiently discussed during the campaign and that is a bad, not a good sign," he said in an interview. "It is a sign that military prerogatives are absolutely entrenched in the political life of the country."

In 1987 and 1988, when Brazil drew up a new constitution, a very efficient military lobby defeated every proposal to trim the power of the military.

"In 40 democracies in the world there isn't one where the military has such prerogatives as they do in Brazil," Stepan said.

The constitution gives the military a role as a kind of last-resort police force to maintain domestic security. During Sarney's government the military sent troops and tanks to counter strikes and informed the civilian labour minister afterwards.

Lula, the candidate of the Radical Workers Party, and who is likely to participate in the run-off, is a former trade union leader with strong links to the militant cut trade union grouping he helped found.

Few analysts believe Lula will win that run-off, but the possibility is not ruled out.

"It will be difficult for Lula to beat Collor, but not impossible," wrote commentator Ricardo Noblat in the Jornal do Brasil.

Student of Brazilian politics say that if Lula wins, he would probably have to treat the military with kid gloves.

Besides the role of the military, is the issue of whether democracy can produce a more equitable economy.

Whoever wins will have to try to narrow the gap between rich and poor, commentators say. The richest 20 per cent of Brazil's population earns 33 times what the poorest 20 per cent earns. The country's best known political scientist, Helio Jaguaribe, has repeatedly warned that democracy will perish if wealth is not disturbed more evenly.

Letters to the editor

Tackle unemployment

SIR: By using some of the best clauses and articles of some of the best constitutions in the world, India has made its own constitution one of the biggest, longest and thickest. To give a socialistic touch, India has used some of the finest clauses from Russian constitution except right to work because it was the policy of the authorities always to exploit the Indian masses by keeping them unemployed.

The chronic disease of India is unemployment which was never tackled by the successive governments of Congress though there was always harping done on this subject especially at the time of elections as it is now. Congress Party has promised lot of things but not to constitutionalise right to work. Many of the Indians who emigrate to foreign countries do so not to make money or more money only but to get employment and in the process they suffer lot of humiliations, harassments and discriminations which is very bad for the development of full human values.

India is the only country that neglects its human resources which otherwise can easily compete with anyone in the world, on equal platform. None of the governments since independence has analysed and remedied the pathetic poverty of the majority of the people suffer in their own land. Some of the major industries suffering from chronic economic diseases have been nationalised, partly for the purpose of looting by the higher-ups.

However, if the poor in India are nationalised or adopted by the government then there is every possibility to eradicate poverty otherwise India will have to import communism from East Europe where it is dying out because it has already fulfilled its purpose of eradicating of basic poverty there. India is a rich country but administered by poor characters. If during the election month eradication of unemployment and poverty is not highlighted by the contesting parties especially the ruling party, the future parliamentarians, very many of them getting elected by means of illegitimate means will use all their powers to legitimise unemployment and poverty and thereby make a big joke of Indian socialism.

If a country calls itself a socialist country but does not provide jobs to its citizens and neglect its poor to a level of sub-human beings, such a country has got no right to call itself a socialist country. The battalions of unemployed youths especially the new voters of 18 years must force their representatives to give a firm assurance to create jobs for them.

A. Veronica Fernandes, Safat

Justice and votes

SIR: It is only in the world's second largest secular democracy (India) where the administration overrules the high court decision on the Babri mosque that the land of the proposed site of the proposed temple is "disputed." Power hungry government, betting on majority votes goes against the decision and protects the foundation stone laying ceremony.

Rajiv was (I hope) well aware of communal tensions in the affected areas, yet he kicks off this election campaign there with promise to restore the Ram Kingdom. When the majority can force its will on the minorities with its government approval and blessing, is this what "secularism and democracy" is about? When the government undermines the legal system by throwing away the high court decision, is this what "justice" is all about? Subsequent statements, again motivated by the hunger for votes, are yet to explain as to what criteria did the Indian government apply in deciding that land is not a disputed site?

Let this be a lesson for the entire Muslim world (not just those in the subcontinent) as to the designs and intentions of the "Super India." Today it is Babri Masjid, tomorrow Shahi Masjid in Delhi.

Let us not forget that the muscles being shown today derive their strength from the economic benefits India seeps from the Muslim world.

Abdul Rashid, Safat

Paci's performance lauded

SIR: It is commendable that Public Authority for Civil Information (Paci) has within a short span of time advanced its services to be at par with some of the developed countries to provide automated informations to the public.

I hope they are a good example to other service-oriented organizations such as airlines, airports, telephone exchanges, etc. I like to see the same commitment for prompt and efficient services from the Civil Aviation Authority (D.G.C.A.) by providing automated flight information at the airport.

I am confident such a service will enhance the civil aviation authority's reputation with the public.

M. Qamruddin, Farwaniya

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the edition process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"She is an inspiration because she's made me want to improve. Had she never been around or been as good I would still be number one and I probably wouldn't be playing anymore. So she's my curse as well as a blessing. Because of her I have not won that ninth Wimbledon but also because of her I am still becoming a better tennis player." — Navratilova on why she is still playing tennis.

"I feel that I can hang in there with Steffi and win one of these matches. It's close enough. I'm still on the losing end but I was in the match the whole way." — Navratilova said of Graf's 6-4 7-5 2-6 6-2 win in the final of the one million-dollar Women's Tennis Championships.

"I've come a long way this year. I learned a lot. I'm hanging in there with Steffi. I know I'm going to win one of these matches because it's close enough." — Navratilova acknowledging Steffi Graf's prowess and hoping for the best. "I don't think about the Wimbledon that I've won or the US Opens that I've won. You think about the ones that got away." — Navratilova saying she doesn't want to rest on past laurels.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Managing your moods through foods

By Judith J. Wurtman, Ph.D.

AS you well know, your mood can make all the difference in your ability to get through a busy day. How many times have you felt too blasé or weary to concentrate on the tasks at hand, or so tense and irritable that you snapped at everyone around you? What you may not know is how the foods you eat — and when you eat them — may be contributing to the way you feel.

As research continues, we're learning more and more about diet's effects on the body. And now the latest discovery is that food, by causing certain chemical reactions in the brain, may also influence mood. Judith J. Wurtman, Ph.D., a distinguished research scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, reveals the findings of ongoing studies on food and mood conducted by her and her colleagues at M.I.T. as well as at other respected institutions. She explains how to choose the right foods at the right times to achieve a lift when your mood has gone into a slump, and also to calm you down before stress gets the best of you.

Of course, it goes without saying that a well-balanced diet, including all the nutrients you need every day, is essential to both physical and mental health. But the strategies here can help you take good nutrition a step further, according to Dr. Wurtman. "By managing your moods through food, you may well be able to accomplish more — and feel a whole lot better at the same time."

Mood-modifying brain chemicals

In the brain, messages are passed from cell to cell by means of electrical impulses and certain chemicals called neurotransmitters. More than a decade ago, it was discovered that three of these neurotransmitters — dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin — are manufactured by the brain from components of the food we eat.

Dopamine and norepinephrine are the alertness chemicals. Research conducted with laboratory animals and later with human volunteers indicates that when the brain is producing dopamine and norepinephrine, distinct changes



In the mood for food

in mood and behaviour take place. In people, these changes include a tendency to think more quickly, react more rapidly to stimuli, and feel more attentive, motivated and mentally energetic. Problems, even big ones, often seem more manageable because of heightened "brain power." Whenever you have that marvelous feeling of being on a mental roll and everything just sort of clicks into place in your mind, it's the dopamine and norepinephrine at work in your brain. The best way to increase your supply of the alertness chemicals is to eat a protein-rich food, either by itself or along with carbohydrates.

Serotonin, on the other hand, is the calming chemical. Lab studies show that when the brain

is manufacturing serotonin, feelings of stress and tension are eased, and the ability to concentrate is enhanced. When your thoughts seem to spin off in all directions at once, an increase of serotonin in the brain will act as a sort of steering wheel, allowing you to filter out distractions so that you can focus more sharply on the job at hand. Serotonin also slows reaction time somewhat, and, depending on the time of day, may make you feel sluggish or sleepy. Carbohydrates, eaten alone — without protein boost the supply of the calming chemical.

Eating proteins, then, either alone or with carbohydrates, will make you more alert when your mental energy is flagging, while eating carbohydrates alone will

unjam your nerves and make you feel less stressed and anxious, more focused and relaxed. How much is enough?

Through laboratory tests and clinical studies, I and my colleagues have learned that, for most people, three to four ounces of a protein food is enough to begin a complex process that stimulates production of dopamine and norepinephrine, thus keeping you mentally up, thinking quickly and accurately, with the brain power to tackle any challenges that come your way.

As little as one or two ounces of carbohydrate food — sweet or starch — will start the process that increases the manufacture of serotonin, and so will make you feel calmer. For reasons un-

known, women in the days just prior to menstruation may need more carbs in order to trigger serotonin production. Due to a complex set of biological factors, people 20 per cent or more over their ideal weight also may need increased amounts. For these two groups, three or four ounces of a carbohydrate food — rather than one or two — may be required.

Tricking your biological clock

You have probably heard the term "circadian rhythms." It refers to the regular and predictable biological ups and downs in the body's mental and physical energy levels — cyclical peaks and valleys that repeat themselves every 24 hours or so, as dawn follows darkness, and day slowly turns again into night.

These biological rhythms affect human beings, other animals, even plants. Your internal circadian "clock" makes you feel relatively alert and mentally energetic during the first six hours or so after you awaken — whether you're a morning person or a "night owl."

Later on, there is a natural slackening off in motivation and in brain power, though the downhill slide in some people is steeper and more precipitous than it is in others. Finally, at the end of the day — usually within an hour or so before one's normal bedtime — there is a tendency to mentally close up shop.

Of course there can be, and are, small blips within the larger pattern. We all have had days when, despite getting our usual amount of sleep, we have stumbled around half conscious until lunchtime. And on other days we felt mentally wide awake and stimulated well past normal "closing time." But these are occasional variations.

Circadian rhythms are strong, but they can be overridden. Food can influence your brain's production of dopamine, norepinephrine or serotonin, thus giving you greater control over the cyclical ups and downs that affect the way you feel and perform. Note: If you've ever been diagnosed as having hypoglycemia — a condition in which blood sugar levels are abnormally low — you must get an okay from your doctor before following any of the recommendations here.

When choosing foods to keep you alert and help calm you down,

be sure to make low-fat selections. There are a number of good reasons to keep fat intake to a minimum. For one, a high-fat diet has been linked to the development of life-threatening conditions such as heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancer. Fat is also higher in calories than other food elements — gramme for gramme, twice as high as protein and carbohydrates. So fatty foods can be fattening. And they don't do much to improve your mood. Because they take longer to digest than other foods, relatively more blood is diverted to the stomach and intestines than to the brain after a high-fat meal. The result: mental processes are slowed and the mind is dulled, as lethargy and even drowsiness set in.

Best stress-less strategies

Having one of those days when your head is spinning, your nerves are shot, and tension is about to get the better of you? The wise use of carbohydrates can calm you. Here, some tips on getting the most from them:

Choose foods that provide oral gratification. Those that give you sucking or chewing satisfaction are the most calming and relaxing of all. Behavioural scientists don't know exactly why this is so, but there is speculation that the comfort these actions provide is carried over from infancy. Some stress-easing selections: lollipops, sour balls, frozen fruit bars, licorice sticks, dried fruit rolls, slightly stale bagels broken up into bite-size pieces, dry cereal, air-popped popcorn, rice cakes, miniature marshmallows.

Know your stress type. If your response to stress is visceral, and your digestion slows in times of tension, you'll have to use a slightly different tactic. A visceral reaction to stress is easy to recognize: You usually experience a sensation of fullness or heaviness in your abdomen even though it has been a while since you last ate. And the idea of putting more food into your stomach — even in small amounts — is unappealing and may even nauseate you.

If you suspect that your reaction to stress is visceral, the fastest, most effective method of ingesting carbohydrates is to drink them. Liquids pass more easily through the stomach, and if you sip them through a straw, pausing for a moment or two between sips — you will be surprised at how little you actually need to drink in order to feel more at peace with the world.



A savoury parcel



1. Brush pastry sheets with melted butter making sure both sides are coated (2 sheets for each parcel). Set remaining butter aside.



2. Place one sheet on top of another. Arrange a handful of celeriac in the centre, then top with onion, garlic, nuts, cheese and tsp of coriander. Season well.



3. Gather up the corners of the pastry to make parcels. Seal the tops by pressing together firmly and brush with remaining butter.



4. Cover the parcels with foil caps, and bake at 200C, 400F, Gas Mark 6 for 20 mins. To make sauce, heat cream gently, add remaining coriander and serve immediately.

Savoury delight!

A tasty snack with a mouth-watering cheese, nut and herb filling — a pleasant change to conventional buffet fare and perfect as a starter. Serve hot with a creamy coriander sauce.

1 large onion, chopped and softened in a little butter.
2 cloves garlic, crushed.
1 bunch fresh coriander, chopped.
6oz (150g) pine nuts
8 oz (225g) Port Salut cheese, grated.
Finch salt.
Freshly ground pepper
100 oz (284g) carton double cream.

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How Madhur Jaffrey makes Thai chicken curry

By Madhur Jaffrey

"THE Thai curry I've chosen for you — the Thais call these *kaengs* — gives a different experience from Indian curries which are heavy on cumin and coriander," says Madhur Jaffrey. "Thai food is light, lemony, aromatic. Your first mouthful gives an explosion of different sensations and flavours which then mix together magically. I think it's one of the greatest cuisines of the world."

"Now that Thai food has become so fashionable, it is becoming easier to find ingredients here. I've suggested some alternatives but I know that if you can get galangal, lemon grass and kaffir lime leaves once, you will fall in love with them! We had some problems finding fresh coriander in my first series but now you can buy it everywhere. I believe that people are so adventurous and demanding now about trying new tastes —

you're ready for this next step.

"Galangal is a form of ginger that's more aromatic. Lemon grass has a deeper flavour than plain lemon. And the glossy green leaves of the kaffir lime, sliced finely, give the wonderful astringent final flourish to many Thai dishes."

"This isn't a hot dish, so if you like 'burn' you can leave these seeds in the chillies. I know many people cut down on garlic but why not try my way first, and discover if you like it? Garlic won't leave an aftertaste if it's correctly and gently cooked, as it is here."

"I love this dish because it doesn't cost a fortune yet is so good for entertaining. I make treble quantities of the sauce (steps 1-3) at a time to freeze. You can make ahead and reheat but I prefer to prepare early in the day then cook freshly as the final stages are so easy. No difficult sauce to make — I use canned coconut milk. Remember to keep

the can of milk upright so you spoon off the 'cream' which rises to the surface."

"You need chicken leg meat for this dish, as it stays moist, and do make sure you choose fresh or chilled chicken wherever possible."

"This is such a flexible dish. Light enough for lunch, or to put on cocktail sticks to hand round with drinks. I'd serve it for a big dinner along with another Thai curry or, for a supper, after prawn soup — this recipe is also in my book."

"I believe you'll love it, because it's a new way of dealing with our familiar food. I think the Thais have a heightened sense of pure flavour and aroma and with this dish you enter their warm, welcoming world."

For Madhur Jaffrey's Thai Chicken Curry to serve four, you will need:

7 large dried chillies
2 in (5 cm) piece fresh galangal (or root ginger)
1 stick fresh lemon grass
3 cloves garlic
6 shallots (or 1/2 medium onion)
4-5 fresh coriander roots (optional)
1-1/2 tsp Thai shrimp paste (or anchovy essence)
2 tsp paprika
1/2 tsp ground coriander
1/2 tsp ground cumin
1/2 tsp turmeric
pinch ground cinnamon
pinch ground cardamom
4 chicken legs (thigh and drumstick)
14 fl oz (400 ml) can coconut milk
4 tbsp oil
1-1/2 tbsp bottled fish sauce
1 tsp soft dark brown sugar
4 fresh kaffir lime leaves (or 2 tsp finely grated lemon rind)
15-20 small basil or mint leaves

Indian dish
Roghayn Josh
Mutton Curry

CURRY: This is a beautiful and exotic dish and is perhaps the most famous preparation of the mysterious East.

Ingredients
1-1/2 lb (680 g) mutton
4 oz (115 g) onions
1/2 oz (15 g) ginger (adark)
4 oz (115 g) ghee
10 cloves of garlic (lasan)
3 Kashmiri red chillies (without seeds)
1-1/2 teaspoonfuls red pepper (degi mirch)

1/2 teaspoonful turmeric (haldi)
1 teaspoonful poppy seeds (khaskhas)

1 teaspoonful white cumin seeds (sufaid zeera)
1 tablespoonful coriander seeds (sukha dhania)
1/4 to 1/2 pt (150-240 mls) hot water

2 brown cardamoms (illaichi)
6 cloves (laung)
12 peppercorns (kali mirch)
1/2 oz (15 g) desiccated coconut (naryal ka burada)
1/2 oz (15 g) almonds (badam)
1/4 pt (120 g) curd (yoghurt)
5 green cardamoms (illaichi)
2 teaspoonfuls salt
A little nutmeg (jaiphal)
A little mace (javatri)
4 oz (115 g) tomatoes
1/2 teaspoonful garam masala
Fresh coriander leaves (dhania) or parsley for garnishing.

Method

Roast the coriander seeds, crush and sift the skins. Also roast together the poppy seeds, white cumin seeds, almonds, brown cardamoms, peppercorns, cloves, nutmeg, mace and the coconut. Soak the Kashmiri red chillies (Kashmiri mirch) in half cup of hot water for half an hour.

Grind ginger, garlic, and the above roasted ingredients.

Heat the ghee, add crushed green cardamoms and grated onions and fry till browned. Remove the pan from the fire, add 1/2 teaspoonful red pepper, 1/2 teaspoonful turmeric and the above-made spice paste and fry on slow fire. Beat the yoghurt (curd) and add a little at a time till the whole of it is consumed. Add 4 oz (115 g) of peeled, blanched and sliced tomatoes and cook for 5 minutes; add the mutton and the salt and brown slightly on a medium fire.

Add 1/2 pt (240 mls) water, cover the pan with a saucer-shaped lid and keep a little water on it. Simmer for about 1-1/2 hours or until tender. An alternative is to add 1/4 pt (150 mls) water, pressure-cook for 20 minutes at 15 lb pressure and then allow the pressure to drop by itself.

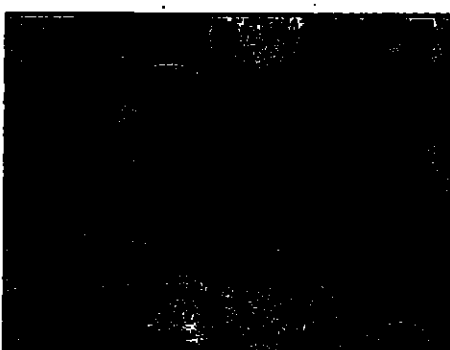
Serve, sprinkled with finely-chopped fresh coriander leaves or parsley and 1/2 teaspoonful garam masala.



1. Slit 7 large dried chillies lengthway. Scrape out and discard seeds. Put chillies in a small bowl and cover with 6 fl oz (175 ml) water. Leave to stand 1 hour.



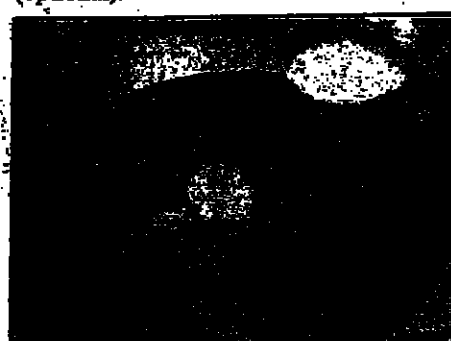
4. Make a deep slit along the length of 4 chicken legs and discard skin. Free meat from bone at both ends. Continue to cut and scrape the meat off thigh bone and drumstick. Cut into 1 in (2.5 cm) cubes, discarding bones.



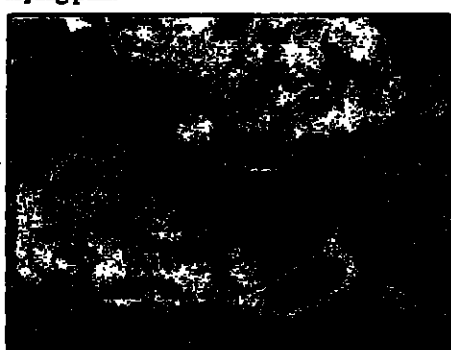
7. Add 4 tbsp oil to the coconut cream in the saucepan. Bring to boil stirring. Add processed chilli mixture and cook, stirring, over medium heat until mixture separates into lightly browned paste and oil.



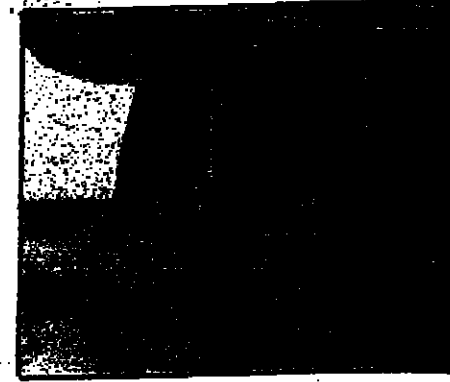
2. Peel a 2 in (5 cm) piece of fresh galangal (or root ginger) and chop roughly. Trim off the root end, then cut very fine crossways slices, about 6 in (15 cm), up a stick of fresh lemon grass. Peel 3 cloves garlic and 6 shallots (or 1/2 medium onion), chop coarsely. Wash and roughly chop 4-5 fresh coriander roots (optional).



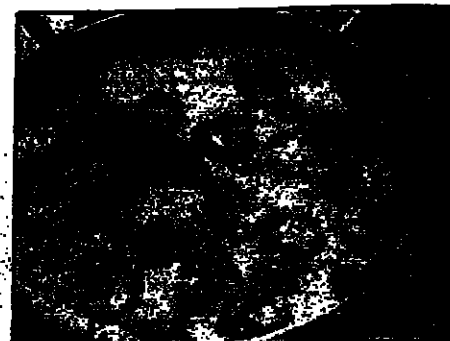
5. Spoon out 4 tbsp of the thick 'cream' which forms at the top of the canned coconut milk when kept upright for some hours. Put into a heavy-based saucepan. Set aside. Add 1/2 tsp salt to remaining contents of can and stir well. Pour into a medium-size frying pan.



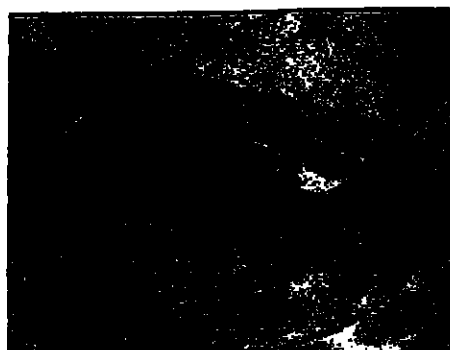
8. Reduce heat, add 1 1/2 tbsp, bottled fish sauce (or salt to taste) and 1 tsp soft dark brown sugar, stir until mixed. Stir in chicken mixture. Bring to boil, reduce heat, cook 1 min. (To make ahead, cool, keep chilled several hours in fridge and reheat, stirring occasionally, over low heat until piping hot).



3. Put all prepared ingredients, including chillies and soaking liquid, into a processor or blender. Add 1-1/2 tsp. Thai shrimp paste (or anchovy essence), 2 tsp paprika, 1/2 tsp ground coriander, 1/2 tsp ground cumin, 1/4 tsp salt, blend until smooth.



6. Add cubed chicken to the coconut milk in frying pan and bring to boil. Stir constantly over medium heat for about 20 min until the chicken is tender. Set aside.



9. Remove centre vein from 4 fresh kaffir lime leaves, cut crossways into very fine strips (or finely grate 2 tbsp lemon rind). Scatter basil or mint leaves over chicken, submerge in sauce. Transfer to warmed serving dish, scatter kaffir lime leaves or lemon rind on top. Serve with boiled rice, garnished with red and green chillies.

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The best coffees and teas to wake up to

steaming mug of rich coffee or a cup of fragrant tea to be one of the nicest parts of breakfast. And today there's a whole world of flavourful blends to choose from.

By Claire Byrd

GOURMET teas and coffees are widely available from coast to coast, in both specialty food stores and local supermarkets. Here's a roundup of some of the best brews around, plus tips on bringing out every drop of their flavour.

The hottest coffees
Coffee beans fall into two categories: medium-roasted and high-quality arabica bean, which flourishes in warm, moist climates at high altitudes.

In recent years, interest in international coffees has grown dramatically. According to the Coffee Development Group, some of the trendiest varieties include rich, smoky Hawaiian Kona; full-bodied, slightly buttery Colombian "Supremo," flavourful, sweet Kenyan; vibrant, smooth Ethiopian; and mellow Jamaican Blue Mountain (the rarest of the beans and hence the most expensive).

Also popular are specialty blends like mellow Cafe Latte, and flavoured coffees, such as chocolate, Swiss chocolate almond and hazelnut, which make delicious substitutes for dessert.

Storage savvy
Ground coffee goes stale quickly, but just enough to last up to three weeks. Store in an airtight container, in a cool, dry place or in the freezer. (Ground coffee may be brewed when frozen.) Coffee beans should be kept in an airtight container in the freezer, where they will keep for up to three months.

How to brew a perfect cup
Start with the right blend for your brewing equipment — a coarse grind for a percolator, a fine one for a drip pot.

Use fresh, cold water. (Hot tap water tends to taste flat and stale.)



Tea for two

- Measure one to two level tablespoons of coffee per six-ounce cup.
- As soon as the brewing cycle is over, remove grounds to prevent a bitter taste.
- Never reheat coffee — that spoils its taste. Instead, keep the beverage warm in a thermal carafe.

The tastiest teas

All teas come from the leaves of the tea bush (called *Camellia sinensis*), a long-lived plant that thrives in tropical and semitropical climates.

There are three broad categories of teas, based on how the leaves are processed. **Black tea** is made by fermenting the leaves, which turns them a dark colour and creates a hearty brew.

Green tea is produced by steaming leaves to prevent fermentation. When brewed, it's lightly coloured and fresh tasting. **Oolong tea** is made from partially fermented leaves; the brew is light brown in colour and delicately flavoured. Most Americans prefer black teas,

although a few oolongs have been gaining popularity.

Tai Lee, owner of the famed McNulty's Tea and Coffee Company in New York City, says the top tea choices today are mild, flowery Darjeeling; smooth, flavourful Orange Pekoe; delicate, scented Jasmine; smoky Lapsang Souchong; fragrant Earl Grey, a blend of Oriental teas flavoured with "citrusy" oil of bergamot; and English Breakfast Tea, a full-bodied mix of selected varieties.

Storage savvy

When stored properly in an airtight, tin canister away from sunlight and moisture, regular teas stay fresh for up to two years; scented teas, for one year.

How to brew a perfect cup
Use only loose tea or high-quality tea bags. And always brew tea in a teapot, preferably one made of china, porcelain or earthenware.

- Fill tea kettle with fresh, cold water and bring to a rolling boil to fully release the tea leaves' flavour.

- While water boils, preheat the teapot by rinsing with hot water and let stand for a few minutes.
- Use one teaspoon of loose tea or one tea bag per cup.
- Let tea brew three to five minutes.

The coffee klatch

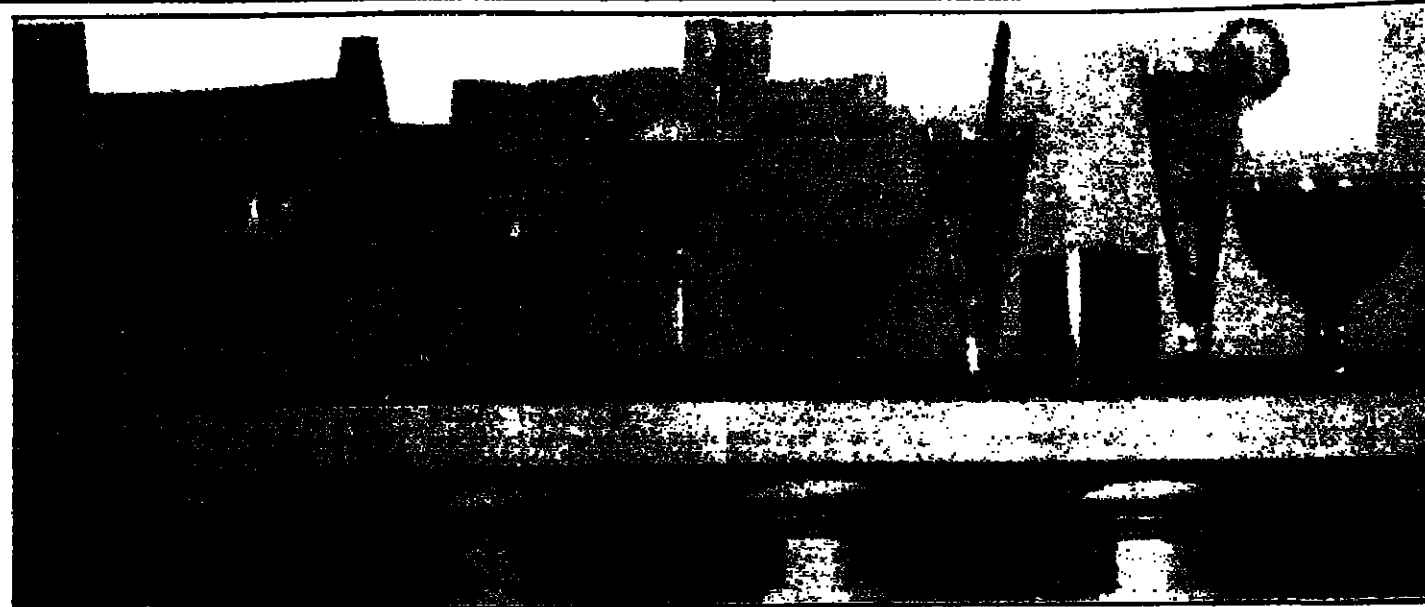
This cake goes great with steaming cups of coffee or tea. They are also just the things to serve. When good friends drop by at tea/coffee time. Country fair

Blueberry-streusel cake
The secret of this light, moist coffee cake — baking soda! A must when using cream or any acid ingredient in a batter.

Streusel
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1/4 cup chopped walnuts
Batter
1/3 cup butter or margarine, softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1 8-ounce container sour cream
2 large eggs
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1-3/4 cups all purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
1-1/2 cups fresh or frozen blueberries

Heat oven to 350°F; grease 9- or 9-1/2 inch springform pan. **Prepare streusel:** In small bowl combine 1/2 cup flour, brown sugar and cinnamon; using fork or pastry blender, cut in 1/4 cup butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in walnuts; set aside. **Prepare batter:** In large bowl with electric mixer at medium speed, beat 1/3 cup butter, granulated sugar, sour cream, eggs, vanilla, 1-3/4 cups flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt to blend. Increase speed to high; beat 5 minutes longer until very smooth, stopping mixer occasionally to scrape down sides of bowl. **To assemble:** Pour batter into prepared pan. Scatter blueberries over batter; sprinkle evenly with streusel mixture. Bake 1 hour until streusel is browned and wooden pick inserted in centre comes out clean. Cool cake in pan on wire rack; remove sides of pan before serving. Makes 12 servings.

Per serving: 315 calories, 5 grams protein, 15 grams fat, 41 grams carbohydrate.



Coolers, cocktails to soothe and refresh you

In The Pink

Makes 6 cocktail glasses
1-3/4pt (1 litre) ruby red grapefruit juice
60 oz (175 ml) ice cubes
6 sprigs of mint
1. Chill the grapefruit juice thoroughly. Pour into a jug and stir.
2. Wrap the ice in a clean tea towel and crush with a rolling pin. Add to jug.
3. Pour into cocktail glasses. Top with mint.

Taste of Passion

Makes 8 tall glasses
1-3/4pt (1 litre) pineapple juice
1/2pt (250ml) orange juice
1/2pt (250ml) sparkling spring water
2 passion fruit
1. Chill the fruit juices and spring water.
2. Halve passion fruit. Scoop seeds into a jug. Mix well, then serve in tall glasses, with ice.

Iced Lemon And Lime

Makes 4 cocktail glasses
1/2pt (250 ml) lemon sorbet
1 lime
1pt (500ml) soda water
1. Put the sorbet — in a jug. Add the finely grated rind and juice of the lime.
2. Gradually whisk in the chilled soda water. Pour into cocktail glasses. Add an extra scoop of sorbet.

Iced Rose Tea

Makes 6 tumblers
4tbsp Rose Pouchong tea leaves
1pt (500 ml) sparkling spring water
ice cubes
rose petals
1. Put tea into a bowl, add 1pt (500ml) cold tap water. Infuse for 4 hours.
2. Strain tea into a jug. Add the spring water and serve in tumblers, poured over ice cubes. Float rose petals on top.

Chocoholic's dream comes true

Chocolate checkerboard

Ice cream bombe

An easy and elegant dessert — with only three ingredients — ready in less than 30 minutes.

Half 12-ounce package milk chocolate chips, about 1 cup
1 3-ounce package ladyfingers, split
Half gallon vanilla-fudge ice cream

Chocolate Curis, recipe below, optional

Place serving platter in freezer to chill. In top of double boiler over barely simmering water, melt chocolate, stirring frequently until smooth. Remove from heat. Dip one end of each ladyfinger into chocolate to coat halfway; gently scraping off any excess; as they are dipped, place ladyfingers on cookie sheet lined with wax paper. Refrigerate at

least 20 minutes until chocolate is set. Meanwhile, carefully remove ice cream from container in one block; place on chilled serving platter. Arrange chocolate-dipped ladyfingers around all sides of ice cream block, pressing gently to adhere. If desired, decorate with chocolate curis, sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Serve immediately. Makes 12 servings.

Per serving without chocolate curis: 312 calories, 6 grammes protein, 17 grammes fat, 33 grammes carbohydrate.

Note: Any remaining ladyfingers can be served alongside dessert, or refrigerate in air-tight container to serve at another time.

Chocolate tips

For the best results when working with chocolate, follow these simple guidelines:
● When melting chocolate by

itself, it's a safest to use a double boiler over barely simmering, never boiling, water. If you don't have a double boiler, you can improvise by setting a small saucepan inside a larger pan containing about 1/2 inch hot water. You can melt chocolate over very low direct heat only if you use a heavy-bottomed pan and stir constantly.

● Make sure the pan you use to melt your chocolate is completely dry — a single drop of water can cause the chocolate to stiffen up and harden. To restore it to its proper consistency, beat in 1 teaspoon melted shortening or vegetable oil for every ounce of chocolate.

● You can safely melt chocolate with butter or other shortening over low direct heat if you add the butter first and let it melt a bit. Then add the chocolate and

stir frequently, watching very closely until the chocolate is almost melted. Remove from heat and stir until completely melted and smooth.

● To speed up the melting process, cut chocolate into small chunks, or even grate. This works well for chocolate containing many additives, like milk chocolate, and is essential for white chocolate.

● To melt chocolate in the microwave, place in a microwave bowl or measuring cup. Place, uncovered, in microwave, using full power for chips, either with or without shortening, and for squares of chocolate with shortening added. Use medium (50 per cent power) for squares that are melted alone. It is not necessary to grate or chop chocolate fine; just stir at least once to prevent any area from scorching.



Thai fruits and vegetables.

Distinctive Thai food

By George Cherian
Arab Times staff

THAI food is a truly distinctive one for its hot and spicy ingredients. Liberal use of chilies and other exotic herbs makes it unique.

Thai cuisine has been influenced by the cooking styles of India, China, Java, Malaysia and Portugal.

A wide range of dried spices, such as eumin, nutmeg, cloves are found in Thai kitchens. The proper use of these ingredients is regarded as culinary art in Thailand. Each cook will vary the recipe according to taste, and the blending will differ from one cook to another. The use of coriander ground with garlic and peppercorns is a typical flavoring combination.

Boiled or fried rice form the basis of most Thai meals, along with a large variety of noodles. All kinds of meats, poultry and seafood are cooked with herbs and chilies and eaten with rice or noodles.

Vegetables are always fresh and are usually quickly stir-fried in large chafin pans. Curries, especially those with the coconut cream base, are popular.

Soups also play an important role in Thai cuisine and unlike western soups, are taken with the main courses.

All the dishes served in a Thai meal are served together and eaten at the same time.

Typical dishes include:
● Ton Yam — a spicy soup made usually with seafood and seasoned with lemon grass and hot pepper.

● Gang Pat — very hot, curry, made with chicken, beef, or seafood, sweetened with coconut and fried with garlic, chilies, coriander, pepper and soy sauce.
● Mi Krop — crisp thin noodles with bits of shrimp and eggs and sweet and sour sauce.

● Kao Pat — Thai fried rice, usually with beef, fish, or seafood.
● Kai Tom Ka — Lemon grass-

chicken soup in coconut milk.
● Gai Yang — Barbecued chicken flavored with various spices and stuffed with coconut.
● Songkaya — Pudding made with eggs, sugar and coconut.

A fascinating feature of Thai dining is the fruits and vegetables which have been delicately carved into a variety of marvellous shapes. Apart from being an interesting way of serving these items, the carvings certainly help to beautify a dining table. For example drinks are served in carved pineapple with straws.

Visitors are often surprised by the vast selection, abundance and quality of Thai fruits. Thai fruits are much sweeter and juicier than those grown in the West and includes different varieties of bananas, mangoes, lychees, sweet oranges, papayas, custard apple, longan, pineapples, guava, rose apple, jack fruits, sapodillas and grapes. Guavas are noticeable for their big size.

Courtesy to TAT

Come on over for take-out: Finger-lickin' fun

YOU'D love to have a few friends over next weekend, but your week looks hectic. A party is the last thing you need, right? Wrong! Ordering take-out for dinner can be the perfect solution, provided you serve it up with a generous helping of extras and scene-setting details. Read on for ideas for three unusual parties — this one, a fried chicken feast.

Though chicken can be super sophisticated, it's probably at its most comforting when it's served down home style. And the ease of ordering out for grilled, roasted, fried or barbecued chicken makes it the perfect answer for impromptu entertaining.

Accept the informal

The way to make a celebration out of a simple bird is, first, to set a warm and welcoming mood, and, second, to indulge in extras. Some hints to help make the night more special:

● Consider sending invitations on the back of Li'l Abner newspaper cartoons to communicate the fun, "hoedown" theme of the evening. Or send a toy chicken, whether wood or windup, with a note attached.

● Play country-and-western music or pop hits from the '40s and '50s to enhance the mood.

● Set the table with rag runners and place mats and the simplest napkins you have. Served tea, lemonade, in mismatched pitchers. If you have jam jars, use them as glasses for more home-spun charm.

● For a clever play on the idea of a bucket of take-out chicken, serve the chicken in old painted wood buckets lined with colorful dish towels. Wicker baskets, antique cookie jars and ceramic mixing bowls can be used to hold side dishes and eating utensils. And if you're lucky enough to own some fiesta ware, now's the time to use it!

No-fuss fixin's

What to serve with the birds? Read on for some ideas for a bountiful buffet.

● Have a selection of sauces on hand: barbecue sauces ranging from mild to super hot, mustard, salsa and pickled super relish, to name a few. The more unusual options available include cactus salsa, chutney and blue-cheese dip.

● Create a feeling of bounty with plenty of take-out salads, such as potato, three-bean and coleslaw. Personalize these dishes by adding a generous squeeze of fresh lemon juice and strip of peppers.

● Corn on the cob is an irresistible complement to chicken. Make it even more luscious by serving it with flavoured butters presented in ceramic crocks with brushes. Melt butter and give it a kick with chili or curry powder.

● The weekend before your poultry party, make cornbread or a pecan bread to freeze. To heat, pop it into a 400°F oven for 20 minutes or so, and serve sliced.

● Finish with a store-bought pecan pie, warmed in the oven and topped with whipped cream. Or buy brownies and serve with vanilla ice cream. Strong, freshly brewed coffee will also be a welcome addition.

Pizza ?

Everyone loves pizza, but served straight from a greasy carton, it's hardly the foundation for at-home entertaining fun. That's why you need to invest your limited free time in the clever Italianate flourishes that will make the evening memorable.

If you want to send invitations, try to find postcards that feature the works of Michelangelo or Caravaggio, or a famed tourist spot in Italy.

Setting the scene

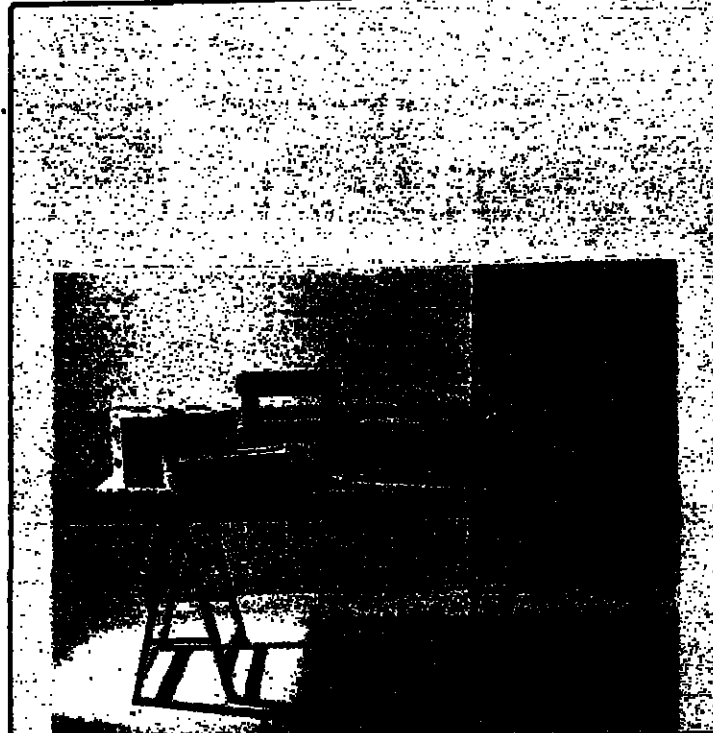
There's no point in pretending that pizza is the stuff of elegant dining, so why not play up its casual appeal? Create the rustic feel of traditional Italian restaurants.

● Opt for colourful checked tablecloths. Set your table with heavy earthenware.

Fill hefty ceramic pitchers with ice water. Slip napkins into Italian souvenir key rings or tie with red and green ribbons and pile in a raffia basket.

● For background music, don't shy away from the obvious choice: an old Caruso record or Pavarotti's latest.

● If you have a little more time for decorating details, go for the look of a street festival. Stretch a banner of "flags" across your



A table all set for the party.

dining room.

● Focus on the food
● Begin with an antipasto of olives, sliced salami, cheeses, marinated artichoke hearts and other prepared foods that further the theme.

● Offer a classic, easy-to-copy Italian first course: Wrap paper-thin slices of prosciutto around ripe melon slices. Pears are also delicious this way.

● Another starter that rates high in eye appeal: slices of fresh mozzarella alternated with basil leaves and tomatoes. Drizzle with extravirgin olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper right before serving.

● Have your oven hot (at least 450°F) so that when the pizza arrives you can crisp it quickly. Before you pop it in the oven, add any additional toppings. Or let guests pick out their own exotic combinations, from a buffet of ingredients including wild mushrooms sun-dried tomatoes, fresh herbs such as basil and rosemary, roasted peppers, thinly sliced prosciutto, crumbled mild goat cheese and artichoke hearts.

● Toss together a variety of green with a vinaigrette dressing made from a flavoured vinegar. Or serve a platter of grilled vegetables.

● Finish with a light dessert such as ice cream or sherbet served with almond or amaretto cookies.

● If you have an espresso maker now's the time to use it! Otherwise brew Italian-roast coffee and offer Amaretto or Sambucca Romana.

Chinese food:

Break out chopsticks! Chinese food can be the focus of a dinner party that's the ideal combination of the familiar and the exotic. When ordering, opt for a variety of foods — some spicy, some mild — and include a mix of meat, poultry, seafood, vegetable and noodle choices. Tradition counts, so read these tips on creating an evocative setting and satisfying meal.

● Though you probably can't recreate the atmosphere of a true Chinese restaurant, you can do much to suggest the East. Comb your local Chinatown or import shops for inexpensive paper lan-

terns, kites and banners featuring Chinese calligraphy and buy bamboo place mats. While you're there, scout for bright cards to use as invitations.

● Either ask the restaurant you order from to supply chopsticks, or invest in beautiful, decorated ones.

● Roll up clean, wet washcloths. Tie with ribbon and scent with a drop of cologne. Heat in the microwave for a minute or in a 330°F oven for five minutes. Give guests washcloths as a gesture of greeting when they arrive.

● If possible, serve food on platters that reflect an Oriental influence. Any classic blue porcelain works well and is complemented by simple white. Keep serving plates warm in a 200°F oven while you wait for the food.

● Cook an ample amount of short-grain white rice and present it in a covered bowl with a wooden paddle.

● Have a large pot of tea on hand. Virtually all supermarkets carry black, jasmine and green tea. Serve in small, decorated, handleless cups.

● Finish with an easy homemade dessert with Oriental undertones, such as a fruit salad sparked with, say, litchi nuts.

● Hand each guest a fortune cookie when saying goodnight. For occasions that allow more planning time, some companies can personalize the message within. If time permits, a fortune cookie could be your invitation!

A twist on the traditional
● Order a dish like sesame chicken — drain it and let cool. Then add it to a mixed green salad as if it were conventional chicken salad, for a delicious different dish.

● Be creative with wonton soup. Add chunks of boiled chicken and steamed vegetables and sprinkle the top with chopped nuts and sliced green onions.
● Try wrapping a spoonful of a dish, such as shredded chicken with cashews, in lettuce or cabbage leaves instead of the usual Chinese pancakes. Depending on the size of the burrito-style roll you make, these can be served as either an appetizer or a main course.

Eating healthy — not hearty

THE Kuwait International Hotel is justifiably proud of the excellent cuisine it provides to its guests. Originally the executive chef and now the Food & Beverage Manager, Michael Strobl has combined his training in Europe and the Far East to bring an entirely new look to the hotel's Speciality and Buffet Restaurant.

This includes introducing a superb range of lighter, exquisitely presented and prepared items to the hotel's reputed rooftop restaurant — Failaka and the poolside buffet restaurant — La Palma. A typical light dinner might include such tempting courses as fresh goose liver on mache lettuce with raspberry vinegar and walnut oil dressing, followed by seaweed sherbet with strawberry, mango, blackberry and kiwi sauce to clean the palate for the next course.

This consists of shrimp, scallops, lobster and crayfish segments with endive braised in grapefruit juice accompanied by fresh black noodles made from squid ink. For the finale, there is an exotic fruit gratin of filled mandarin, mangostine and passion fruit with blueberries, all nesting on a

bed of sabayone sauce, garnished with a chocolate-coated light mousse biscuit.

Aside from the obvious delights of such "nouvelle cuisine," however, Strobl has a deeper motive in mind, and that is to encourage his guests to enjoy healthier eating. That means that there will be more poached fish, low-calorie dressings, yoghurt and quark based dishes, as well as more whole grain foods and fresh vegetable juices.

The breakfast buffet, for example, is particularly suited to health conscious executives. It features a wide range of whole wheat and whole-grained breads, biscuits and fruit muffins, as well as Japanese delicacies, yoghurts, fresh fruits and cucumber juice, along with the more traditional omelettes, sausages, steak and eggs. "I want to tackle the early morning clientele," Strobl says, "who may want to go for an early morning jog and come for a light breakfast."

With a highly trained staff of European and Oriental chefs, including a new Austrian pastry chef, Strobl is making marked improvements in the cuisine at Kuwait International Hotel.

The art of serving people

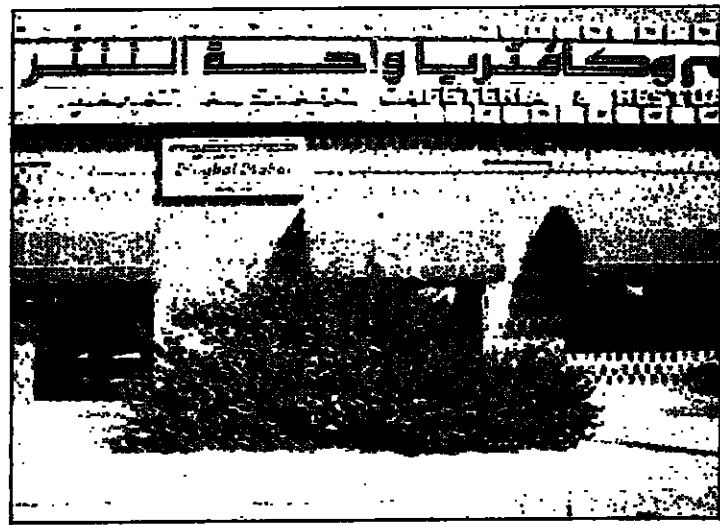
By Ashok Kalra
Arab Times reporter

"The art of serving people is not everybody's cup of tea. It takes more than ambience, more than just a smile. It takes a very special warmth that lights up a service ... That is gracious. And attentive, coupled with amenities and discreetness."

What do we mean when we say that a food service operation is "successful"? Some people may define success as "making money" or "not having any guest complaints." Actually, the components of success in food service operations relate to these factors: a) There must be a growing guest base. b) There must be a satisfactory "bottom line," said Ashok Kalra, managing partner of Mughal Mahal.

Without guests, bottom-line goals cannot possibly be met, concern about the guest is critical, he said. However the operation cannot be successful if the operating procedures to consistently present desired products and services to the guests are not available.

In the year 1978-79 the restaurant business was not very active in Kuwait but it gradually picked up in the year 1981-1982. Lot of new restaurants with different concepts opened and



Mughal Mahal

are still opening but few of them were closed down fully or partly as they could not respond to the market requirements.

He added marketing is essential to the success of food service operations in Kuwait. It encompasses a broad range of activities that are performed by food service employees to provide the guest with food, beverages and service. "It was noticed lot of restaurants were closed down as they could not accomplish two main marketing functions."

(1) To discover what food, beverages and services the guests need and want.
(2) To provide these items to the guests at convenient locations and times and at prices that they are able and willing to pay. Getting guests to try a food service facility is relatively easy, people like to try a restaurant for the first time for novelty, variety, adventure and many

other reasons.

"However persuading customer's to patronize a restaurant on a regular basis is generally much more difficult," Kalra said. He added, in order for a restaurant operation to have a high per cent of repeat customers and long run success, in today's market it must properly utilise many marketing activities combined with an efficient operation that includes careful employee recruitment and selection, proper motivation, high employee motivation and morale, proper menu planning and financial cost control.

In today's industry in Kuwait or elsewhere whether a restaurant is in a hotel or running independently it has to maintain quality, cleanliness and proper services — which are the main contributing factors in the long term success of any food service operation.

From Messilah's palate

MUNIB Rashedi Munib is the Executive Chef for Messilah Beach Hotel. He has been in the field for the past 30 years and has worked in different parts of the world in the same capacity. Some of the places he has been to are Iran, Jordan, Africa, Europe and the Gulf. He joined Messilah Beach Hotel in 1979 and is a member of the Chain Des Rotisseurs and Les Toques Blanches. He has also attended several specialised courses at Cornell University and has received many awards.

Here are some recipes from his cuisine.

Ingredients (4 servings):
200 grams Fish fillet
100 grams shrimps
4 mushrooms
1/2 Onion
1-1/2 cups water
Dash of salt and pepper
Sauce:
4 tsp flour
2 tsp butter
2 cup shrimp broth
1/2 tsp salt
Dash of pepper
Garnish:
2 potatoes
1/2 tsp egg yolk
1 tsp grated cheese
Salt, pepper, butter, 1 lemon, parsley
Cooking time: 40 minutes
Calories: 224.7
Protein: 17.29

Method for Kao Chou Yu Gao Sea Bream Au Gratin

1. Remove head and veins of shrimps. Remove skin and bones of fish. Cut into 4 pieces. Sprinkle with salt & pepper.
2. Cook parsley and 3 slices of onion with a dash of pepper in 2-1/2 cups water. Add celery, salt, bay leaves. Put the fish and shrimps when cooked and remove shells. Slice the mushroom. (In case of fresh mushroom, saute mushroom slices in butter to which lemon juice is added.)
3. Blend flour and butter in pan over low heat. Add shrimp broth, 1/2 tsp salt and stir till creamy. Add a dash of pepper.
4. Butter gratin dishes. Put in a little sauce and place fish, shrimps and mushrooms on it.
5. Make some mashed potato. Add egg yolk and mix well. Contour dishes with mashed potato. Fill in the tops with a good amount of sauce.
6. Sprinkle bread crumbs and grated cheese on top. Put little bits of butter on top and bake in oven for 10-15 minutes till slightly tinged. Serve with lemon.

Stir fried chicken

Ingredients:
3 Chicken legs boned
50 grams Sliced ginger
6 pieces green onions cut 1/2 inch
100 grams button mushrooms

100 grams carrots — sliced
1 small bell pepper
3 hot red pepper
1 cup oil

Type A (marinated):
4 tsp water
1 tsp corn starch
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp sugar

Type B (marinated):
1 tsp cornstarch
4 tsp water
1/2 tsp salt
Mix ingredients well.



Chef Munib

Crisps: Apple of a dietitian's eye

WHAT contains more fibre than wholemeal bread and six times as much vitamin C as an apple? The answer according to the latest research is the original junk food — the potato crisp. And Britain where 5 billion packets are eaten annually, comes second only to Norway in the number consumed per head of population.

After 2 months of subjecting bags of ready salted to laboratory tests, scientists at King's College, London will pronounce the humble crisp in a report tomorrow to be not only harmless but a positively wholesome source of nutrients and energy. The study has caused not a little surprise in the industry itself — it is now preparing to spread the good news with a series of seminars for food experts, for whom the crisp has long been a butt.

The man who led the research, Professor Don Naismith, says that the crisp has been wrongly attacked in the past, especially for an alleged high salt content. "A pack of crisps contains only one-fortieth of a teenage child's normal daily intake of salt, but there are much more impressive ways to talking about them," he says. "The normal standard pack of crisps would give the teenage child about one-twentieth of his energy needs. Crisps have less salt than cornflakes and All Bran on a weight-for-weight basis, and 10 times as much energy and six times as much vitamin C as an apple."

The research was paid for by the snack. Nut and Crisp Man-

ufacturers Association, but nobody, including the Health Education Council, disputes the findings. The work was carried to meet anticipated regulations on food packet labelling, for the industry to discover that it had a healthy food on its hands came as something of a surprise.

According to the research the crisp, which was first developed by a Red Indian chef in 1853 to satisfy jaded palates at the Moonlight House Hotel in Saratoga Springs, contain 11.9 per cent fibre, 2.7 per cent vitamins, 6.5 per cent protein, 36.8 per cent vegetable oil and is less than 40 per cent carbohydrate. Naismith says there is no healthier snack. "Crisps are anything but junk food. I would not want to present them necessarily as a health food, but they are a very nutritious part of the diet."

The new research was broadly welcomed by the National Association of School Meal Organisers. But its secretary, Wendy Izod, said "We still feel that young people need to understand what is meant by a balanced diet. It's still a fact that crisps eaten several times a day don't provide that." The Health Education Council, while not disputing the finding believes that many children eat so many crisps that their diet becomes unbalanced.

A manufacturers' spokesman said "Nobody in the industry is saying that people should go and stuff themselves with crisps. But we will see a campaign by the companies which say that crisps are an ideal snack with a part to play in a balanced diet."

Al Sayer factory: a growing concern

AL SAYER Soft Drinks Factory is one of the division of Mohamed Naser Al Sayer Sons & Est.

This factory was founded in 1978. In the past 11 years, since its inception, it has grown in leaps and bound and its most popular soft drinks are RC Cola, Upper 10, Mazza Mango fruit drink, Mazza Mango fruit drink.

It has got two independent production facility to bottle returnable and non-returnable bottles, cans of carbonated products and fruit juices.

RC Cola and Upper 10 are produced and marketed under the franchise agreement with the American company, "The Royal Crown Cola" and the factory also produces and

markets under the franchise agreement with M/s Parle (Exports) Pvt Ltd, Bombay, India the following soft drinks: Limes (lime and lemon flavour) and five fruit flavoured drinks under the brand name of Mazza Mango, Orange, Pineapple, Strawberry and Fruit Punch.

Mazza Mango is the only steam-sterilised pure juice locally bottled.

The factory has the best equipment in this field for each process of production, with several countries providing the required machineries and expertise.

The lemon soft drink sale has increased considerably during the summer season and to meet this demand the factory has been working round the clock.



FOOD AND BEVERAGES: AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Food facts and fun for kids

Water and vitamins

We can cook with water in two ways: boiling or steaming. If we boil vegetables in too much water, or for too long, the vitamins C in them dissolve. If we do not then use the water to make a gravy or sauce, this vitamin is lost. This is why many people now prefer to steam their vegetables.

Invisible water

All foods contain water, so even if you don't enjoy drinking it, you'll be taking in water without realising it.

Wobbly wobbly water

Pour water into a clear jug or glass. Bend down so your eyes are level with the top of the water. You'll see two lines. This is due to a phenomenon called surface tension: this forces water up the sides of the jug, making it appear as if there are two lines, but it is the bottom line which is the true level. That's why it is important to check liquids at eye level when you are measuring for a recipe.

Food Fact
Would you believe that our bodies are about 60% water? All our cells contain it. To keep healthy, we must take in at least two litres of water every day either in food or drink. When the level becomes low, our brain triggers us into drinking by making us feel thirsty.

Rainbow lollies

Make these ice lollies with fresh juices for healthy drink on a stick.

Makes 4
8fl oz (200ml) orange juice
8fl oz (200ml) pineapple juice
4fl oz (100ml) lime cordial
4fl oz (100ml) cold water
1. Pour the orange juice into a measuring jug and divide it equally between 4 small disposable plastic cups. Stand cups on a baking sheet or tray and freeze for 30 min or until solid.
2. Pour the pineapple juice into jug and pour into each cup on top of orange juice.
3. Push a lolly stick into each cup. Freeze for 1 hour or until solid.
4. Dilute lime cordial in the jug with cold water. Pour into cups on top of pineapple. Freeze until completely solid. To remove lollies, dip each cup in hot water,

The kitchen pictured below is a temple of doom. Can you identify 28 hazards?



1. Slippery floor
2. Hot stove
3. Sharp knife
4. Broken glass
5. Fire hazard
6. Loose wires
7. Open flame
8. Hot oil
9. Sharp tools
10. Dirty dishes
11. Cluttered counter
12. Spilled food
13. Open flame
14. Hot stove
15. Sharp knife
16. Broken glass
17. Fire hazard
18. Loose wires
19. Open flame
20. Hot oil
21. Sharp tools
22. Dirty dishes
23. Cluttered counter
24. Spilled food
25. Open flame
26. Hot stove
27. Sharp knife
28. Broken glass

count to 10, then slide the cup off. Nutrients per serving: Calories 80 Protein 0g Total fat 0g (saturated fat 0g) Carbohydrate 20g Fibre 0g

The tangle on the tongue
Can you remember all that you ate yesterday? You may think you tasted lots of different things. In fact, of all the hundreds of foods we eat, we can taste only

four different things — salt, sugar, sour and bitter.

On our tongue we have lots of tiny bumps called taste buds. These taste buds spring into action as we chew up our food. You might think you taste 'tastes' all at the same time, but the taste buds are arranged so you can taste things individually.

Gourmet giggle ha!

Customer: Waiter, waiter, this coffee tastes like mud. Waiter: It should sir, it was only ground this

morning!

Food fact
Did you know that, weight for weight, you could find more salt in your bowl of cereal than in a packet of ready salted crisps?

How we taste with our eyes

Although it's our tongue that does the real tasting, it's helped by two of our other senses — sight and smell. If we like what we see and smell on our plate, we'll eat it. But if something looks or smells horrible, then we're not so tempted.

Food manufacturers often colour foods as they think we will find it more attractive and tasty. But recently some have decided to reduce the amount of colouring. You might have noticed your favourite fruit drink or yogurt looks a bit paler these days but that it tastes the same.

Just tasting

As we get older our tastes in food change. You don't often see lots of grown-ups at the sweet shop, do you?

To find out how good we are at identifying foods, you can play at being a scientist by doing an experiment with your friends, mum, dad, granny or whoever's about. Here's how:

Set out on a table a selection of different foods with the four tastes. Blindfold your chums and see how many they can get right. Then try your mum and dad. Taste a tiny amount on a teaspoon.

Here's a list of foods to start you off:
Sweet: white sugar, brown sugar, honey.
Salt: table salt, meat seasoning yeast extract (Marmite).
Sour: lemon juice, malt vinegar, wine vinegar.
Bitter: coffee powder, cocoa powder, almond essence.

How to keep it and eat it

We can't see them, but around us there are lots of tiny organisms bacteria, yeasts or moulds. If we keep food too long or do not keep it wrapped or stored properly, these organisms attack the food and make it go bad. Sometimes these organisms grow a blue coat if it is left out of the fridge, unwrapped, for

a long time. The blue coat is made up of millions of tiny moulds clinging to the surface of the cheese. Bacteria, yeast and mould need food, warmth and moisture to multiply, so to keep food fresh you have to take these things away.

Drying

People in hot countries often dry fruit in the sun to keep it for winter. Nowadays, all type of food can be dried by the modern method of freeze-drying. Frozen food is heated in a special airtight chamber. The ice is driven off and the food dries without losing too many nutrients.

Canning

Baked beans are the most popular canned food you can buy. The beans are put into the can with hot sauce, sealed and heated to a very high temperature in a sort of pressure cooker. Nowadays, almost anything can be canned and will keep for years.

Pickling

Vinegar is an acid liquid that bacteria, yeasts and moulds can't live in. So vegetables, like onions, will keep in a sealed jar of vinegar for ages. These organisms can't survive in strong sugar solution either, so we can keep fruit in jars of syrup, too.

Freezing

Most homes have a fridge and a freezer to keep foods fresh. Food can be bought ready frozen or you can freeze it at home. It is best to freeze it quickly, so that only small ice crystals form. Slow freezing forms big ice crystals which, when the food is defrosted, make it soft and watery-tasting.

Gourmet giggle ha!

Q. What did the baby sardine say when he saw a submarine?
A. Look Mum — a tin of people!

Food fact
Canned food was invented in 1809 by the French chef Nicholas Appert when food was needed by the soldiers fighting in Germany. For this invention Napoleon awarded him 12,000 francs.

Catering with a cause

AL OTHMAN Trading and Contracting Company owned by Suleiman and Abdulla Ghanim Al Othman of Kuwait has been operating as a Kuwaiti company for the last 40 years.

The Catering Division now led by Avertano A.J. Furtado has been invaluable in operating the major feeding programmes for the hospitals of Ministry of Public Health and so also for the Old Aged Home of the Ministry of Social Affairs and in providing meals for the complete medical staff and support personnel for the last 10 years.

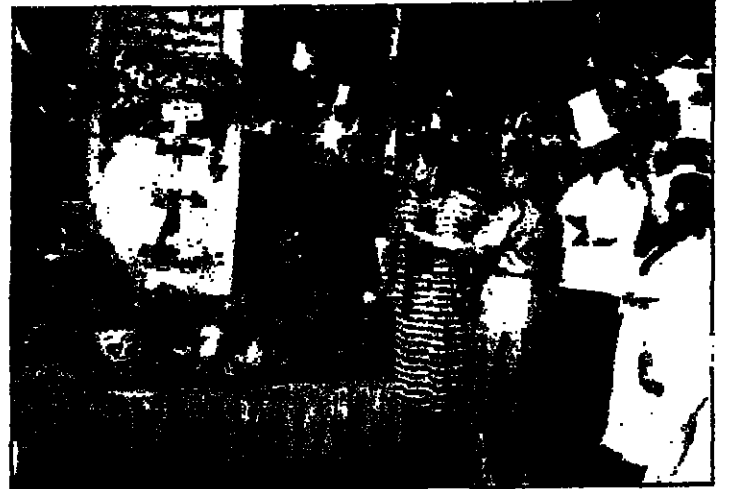
Al Othman is presently supplying about 10,000 meals per day and the rigid specifications have been met to the letter.

Recently the company has been awarded with a three-year contract for Petrochemical Industries at Shuaiba to feed about 800 company employees.

Al Othman Catering Division activities:

The entertainment committee comprising of Oscar Vaz (president), Dominic Fernandes (secretary) Peter Mendes (treasurer), have registered Al Othman football team with the Kuwait Football Federation and have created ripples on the field and since become the 'darling' of the spectators, leaving aside the numerous 'discipline awards'. They also have a very aggressive volleyball team.

The camp facilities for the staff comprise of football ground, volleyball ground and a recreation room, where table tennis and carrom are available at all times for those off duty. A television set has also been provided for those who like to spend their time in the dining hall. Recently the camp held its Annual Winter Sports Festival where lots of games



Dr Fowzia Al Awadi at one of Al Othman's food exhibits



Above: The Al Othman football team. Below: Mr Furtado with family.



were held and prizes distributed to the staff. Verghese, First Secretary at the Indian Embassy, who was the chief guest, was very impressed by the well-organised show and congratulated the management for providing their staff with such extra-curricular facilities within their campus.

Fish in a flash: quick cuisine

THERE are plenty of good reasons for choosing fresh, rather than frozen, fish. When fish is frozen its texture changes, and in time it will become a woolly, tasteless mess. Fresh fish, on the other hand, is succulent, flavoured, and convenient. True, it doesn't often come neatly cut into filleted steaks, but if you ask nicely your fishmonger will do all the messy bits for you.

How can you tell if fish is fresh? There's a simple way. It looks it. The eyes are clear and sparkling (avoid any that are cloudy, sunken and sad-looking); the flesh is firm, the gills are rosy pink and the only smell emanating from it is the sweet smell of the sea. And if you can't look into your fish's eyes because it's filleted, then the flesh should have a plump, glistening look. Avoid any fish with dry yellowing edges.

Assuming that it's not eaten with chips, fish has no rival when it comes to healthy eating. It's

low in fat, high in protein and packed with vitamins, minerals and fish oils containing the magical omega 3, a unique substance known to break down cholesterol. Be aware of how you're cooking fish if you're eating it for the benefit of your health: four ounces (100g) of baked, steamed or grilled cod contains 85 calories, but deep frying the same amount in batter whacks that figure up to 215 calories.

And fish is the natural convenience food. It needs minimal cooking. Fish is cooked when the flesh just turns milky in colour. Insert the point of a knife next to the bone and the flesh should just start to come away. If you are cooking a fillet, test it at the thickest part — it should just start to flake. Test frequently during cooking to ensure succulent results, overcooked fish is dry and tough.

Fish needs a very little embellish-



Fish on display

ishment, just a squeeze of fresh lemon (lime is even better), salt and freshly ground black pepper with just a trace of olive oil or butter is delicious. But extending the list of good accompaniments, I would add fresh parsley, dill, fennel, chervil and tarragon, which all have a natural affinity. Fresh basil and thyme are good too. There's garlic, fresh root ginger — much used by Asian cooks. Follow their example and slash a whole fish ready to rub with either the Cantonese

speciality of ginger, garlic, soy sauce and spring onion, or the Thai mix of lemon grass, coriander, chilli, garlic and ginger, then steam or grill the fish for an exotic flavour. Other good accompaniments are shallots, which are a classic aromatic partner; Pernod for its aniseed flavour, and Noilly Prat — the chef's favourite vermouth.

Fishes of the month are cod, coley, hake, halibut, herring and mackerel, but if you are eager to experiment try some of the 'exotic' species now available. Shark, which has a mild flavour, a truly meaty texture and a reasonable price, is good for kebabs and responds well to spicy treatment. But if you're grilling it, protect the fish from drying out and add extra flavour with an oil-based marinade. Fresh tuna and swordfish are more expensive but because their texture is so firm, you'll find you need less.

Shrimpy: home of seafood

THE new franchise of the United Fisheries of Kuwait — "Shrimpy's" was officially opened last year by its Assistant Managing Director Faisal M. Al Shatti.

The fast food restaurant is located on the waterfront near the Kuwait Towers and is spacious and decorated in muted colours with attractive marble water fountains.

The menu consists mainly of deep fried breaded cod fillets and shrimp served attractively in a wicker basket with French fries and coleslaw. Hamburgers and chicken are also available for those diners who cannot eat fish for whatever reason.

Shrimpy now has been known to all seafood lovers as it is the finest family fast food restaurant in the area. The superior quality & the low price along with the beautiful location on the Sea Front side has made Shrimpy very popular. The company will open within the next 2 months another unit in Nuzha Co-op Society area. The company also will launch shortly franchise campaign to offer same locally & abroad.

All our services & facilities... All our people add up to only one thing - the total satisfaction of our guests.

"The Bistretto, the Peacock or Al Boom..."

When business visitors are at the SAS Kuwait Hotel, they prefer to spend their evenings in the hotel where they are staying. Why? Because the SAS Kuwait Hotel offers a choice of the renowned restaurants in town: Bistretto, the Italian Piazza, with exquisite home-made pastas, Peacock, the preference in Chinese cuisine, or Al Boom, where they can enjoy the fresh seafood & grilled meats in an original Kuwaiti setting.

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(Suleiman & Abdulla Ghanim Al Othman)

Al Othman Catering Division

The Secret Ingredients of Our Leadership in Food:
A collective group of energetic and dynamic individuals through their dedicated efforts and experience within the food industry have proven to be the fast-paced track record which provides the most successful Catering operations within Kuwait.

Al Othman can do it
We can provide services for Industrial Camps, including Laundry and Cleaning, Dining room services staff meals or a complete company picnic. We can do it with taste, imagination and consistent high quality.

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Dieters Indulge, calorie counters beware

TWO out of every three women go on weight reducing diets each year, and, for many of them, skipping breakfast seems to be an ideal way to cut calories. Research has shown, however, that bypassing breakfast may actually be one of the worst moves to make when trying to drop extra pounds. Here's why:

* Calories consumed in the morning are more easily burned off than those consumed at night, which are more likely to be stored as fat.

* Weight-loss experts agree that skipping breakfast will probably make you so hungry that you're likely to overeat later in the day.

* When you miss breakfast, you're missing out on essential nutrients, such as vitamin A, iron, calcium and vitamin C, which research shows you're unlikely to make up at lunch or dinner.

* If you're convinced that eating breakfast is important, especially when you're on a diet, the next step is making sure you eat the right breakfast. Follow this advice from Dawn Schiffhauer, R.D., vice-president of United Weight Control Corporation and a weight-loss counselor in affiliation with St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital in New York City:

* Plan your breakfast so that it provides you with one third of your calories for the day. On a 1,200-calorie-a-day plan, then, you could have 2/3 cup of bran flakes with a sliced banana and a cup of skim milk, plus a slice of whole wheat toast with a pat of margarine, for a total of just under 400 calories.

* Fresh fruit is a great source of essential vitamins and minerals as well as fiber, which promotes a feeling of fullness. But don't get stuck in the half-a-grapefruit rut: For a colourful change, try a cup of fresh strawberries (45 calories) and a day's worth of vitamin C.

* Milk is rich in protein and calcium, but be sure you keep fat to a minimum by drinking its non-fat version. Two-per cent milk won't do; its fat content is too close to that of whole milk (3.3 per cent). Try using one per cent (also sold as 99 per cent fat-free milk) or skim, instead.

* If time is of the essence, Schiffhauer recommends the blender breakfast below; it's low in calories but contains enough protein to give you a good start.

In blender, combine 1 egg white, eight to 12 ounces skim milk or low-fat yogurt, 2 packets artificial sweetener, 1 cup fresh fruit (sliced, if necessary) and four or five ice cubes.

If you've always assumed that the number of calories you eat dictates the pound numbers on the scales, consider this: two recent studies showed absolutely no connection between calorie intake and body weight. One from Harvard University Medical School surveyed the weight and eating habits of 141 middle-aged women; the other, done at Stanford University, USA, monitored 155 middle-aged men. Both tests involved sedentary, overweight people.

Remember, it's not only the calories you take in that count, but also the calories you burn up. A marathon runner on 300 calories a day will obviously be leaner than a couch potato on the same diet.

And the kind of calories you eat, rather than the number, may have an impact. Calories consumed as fat are more easily converted into fat in the body than the same number of calories consumed as carbohydrate or protein. A hundred calories of butter are more likely to go to your hips than 100 calories of whole wheat bread. Both studies showed people who eat a large proportion of their calories as fat tend to be heavier than those who eat relatively little fat.

Brownies on a diet? You bet — and our super-skinny version is quick to whip up, too.

Sweet 'N' stunning raisin-ant brownies

1/2 cup diet margarine
1/4 cup granulated sugar
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2/3 cup cake flour or all-purpose flour

1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon instant coffee powder

1/8 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup dark raisins
2 tablespoons chopped walnuts

Confectioners' sugar, optional
Heat oven to 350°F. Grease 8-inch square baking pan. In large bowl with electric mixer at medium speed, beat margarine, sugar, eggs, vanilla, flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, coffee powder and salt about 3 minutes until thoroughly blended and smooth; stir in raisins and walnuts. Pour batter into prepared pan; bake 15 minutes until top springs back when lightly pressed with finger. Cool in pan on wire rack. To serve: Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar, if desired; cut into 2-inch squares. Makes 16 servings.

Per serving without confectioners' sugar: 87 calories, 2

grammes protein, 4 grammes fat, 11 grammes carbohydrate.

Chocolate cherry angel cake
A special low-sugar treat—light, light chocolate angel cake layered with preserves and topped with luscious dark-red cherries.

Whites of 8 large eggs
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon almond extract
1/2 cup cake flour or all-purpose flour

1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 cup low-sugar cherry spread
1/4 teaspoon whipping cream
1/8-ounce can pitted dark cherries, well drained and halved.

Heat oven to 375°F. In large bowl with electric mixer at high speed, beat egg whites until soft peaks form; beat in sugar 1 tablespoon at a time until whites are stiff and glossy. Beat in almond extract. In small bowl combine cake flour and cocoa powder. Sprinkle mixture over beaten whites, half at a time; using rubber spatula, gently fold in each time until mixture is just absorbed. Spoon batter into ungreased 8-inch tube pan; bake 25 minutes until top springs back when lightly pressed with finger. Invert cake pan; cook cake in pan. Using sharp serrated knife, cut cooled cake horizontally into three equal layers. Spread top of each layer with some of cherry spread; reassemble cake on serving platter. Decorate with whipped topping and cherry halves to serve. Makes 16 servings.

Per serving: 84 calories, 2 grammes protein, 1 gramme fat, 18 grammes carbohydrate.

Light-as-air Chocolate dream cake

Indulge yourself! A hefty wedge of this pretty-as-a-picture cake is only 110 calories.

Whites of 5 large eggs
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/3 cup cake flour or all-purpose flour

4 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
1-1/2 teaspoons confectioners' sugar
2/3 cup non-dairy whipped topping, about half 4-ounce container
1 tablespoon chocolate syrup

Heat oven to 300°F. Line bottom of 8-inch round cake pan with wax paper. In medium-size bowl with electric mixer at medium speed, beat egg whites until frothy; beat in granulated sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time until soft peaks form. Fold in vanilla. In small bowl combine flour and 3 tablespoons cocoa powder. Sprinkle mixture over

beaten whites, half at a time; using rubber spatula, gently fold in each time until mixture is just absorbed. Spoon batter into prepared pan, gently smoothing top. Bake about 30 minutes until top springs back when lightly pressed with finger. Sprinkle confectioners' sugar on clean kitchen towel; turn cake out of pan onto towel; carefully peel off wax paper. Cool cake completely. To serve: invert cooled cake onto serving platter. In small bowl stir whipped topping and chocolate syrup until thoroughly blended; spread smoothly over top and sides of cake. Sprinkle remaining 1 tablespoon cocoa powder over top. Makes 8 servings.

Per serving: 110 calories, 3 grammes protein, 2 grammes fat, 20 grammes carbohydrate.

Luscious low-cal chocolate mousse
Everybody's favourite chocolate dessert — at about half the calories of the regular version.

3 1-ounce squares semisweet chocolate
Whites of 4 large eggs
3 tablespoons granulated sugar
2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder

1 teaspoon instant coffee powder
1/2 teaspoon grated orange peel
Yolks of 2 large eggs
3 tablespoons non-dairy whipped topping, optional

3 fresh, ripe strawberries, halved, optional
In small heavy saucepan over low heat, melt chocolate, stirring constantly until smooth. Remove from heat; cool. Meanwhile, in medium-size bowl with electric mixer at medium speed, beat egg whites until frothy; gradually beat in 1-1/2 tablespoons sugar until soft peaks form. Set aside. In 1-quart saucepan over medium-high heat, bring remaining 1-1/2 tablespoons sugar and 1/4 cup water to boil; boil 2 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in cocoa powder, coffee powder and grated orange peel. In large bowl with electric mixer at medium speed, beat egg yolks about 5 minutes until light in colour. With motor running, add hot sugar syrup mixture in slow, steady stream to yolks; beat about 3 minutes until mixture is cool. Beat in melted chocolate. Using rubber spatula, gently fold beaten whites into yolk mixture; pour into 6 dessert glasses, dividing evenly. Top each serving with spoonful of whipped topping and strawberry half, if desired. Makes 6 servings.

Per serving without topping or strawberry: 131 calories, 4 grammes protein, 7 grammes fat, 15 grammes carbohydrate.

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Indulge yourself! A hefty wedge of this pretty-as-a-picture cake is only 110 calories.

Whites of 5 large eggs
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/3 cup cake flour or all-purpose flour

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2/3 cup non-dairy whipped topping, about half 4-ounce container
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Per serving: 110 calories, 3 grammes protein, 2 grammes fat, 20 grammes carbohydrate.

Salads spectacular

Salads

Tired Of The Same Old Salad Dressing?

Creamy Dressing

1/2 cup mayonnaise
2 tablespoons milk
1 table spoon vinegar
1/2 teaspoon sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
dash pepper

In small bowl, mix all ingredients. Makes 3/4 cup. About 70 calories per tablespoon.

● 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
● 2 teaspoons chopped parsley and 2 teaspoons chopped fresh tarragon or basil.

● 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
● 2 tablespoons sweet pickle relish or chopped dill pickle

● 1 tablespoon anchovy paste
● 2 tablespoons chopped capers
● 1 garlic clove, minced

● 1/4 cup pimento-stuffed olives, chopped
● 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish

● 1/4 cup bottled chili sauce or catchup
● 1 tablespoon minced green onion or chives

● 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
● 2 tablespoons chopped sundried tomatoes

● 1 tablespoon grated peeled ginger root
● 1/4 cup chopped roasted sweet pepper or pimiento

● 1/4 cup minced arugula
● 1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill, rosemary, or basil

● 1 teaspoon chili powder
● 1/4 cup bottled mild or hot salsa

● 2 tablespoons chopped sweet pepper or onion
● 1/2 cup mashed avocado

● 1 hard cooked egg, finely chopped
● 1/2 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese

● 2 teaspoons crushed cayenne



Beef & Barley Salad

1 cup quick-cooking barley
1 beef-flavor bouillon cube or envelope
1 large lemon
2 tablespoons olive or salad oil salt
coarsely ground black pepper

1/4 pound green beans
1/3 cup coarsely chopped parsley
1/4 cup chopped fresh mint

1 green onion, chopped 1 beef top round steak, 1 inch thick (about 2 pounds)

cherry tomatoes
mini springs for garnish

About 3 hours before serving or early in day:

1. In 2-quart saucepan over high heat, heat barley, bouillon, and 3 cups water to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 35 to 40 minutes until barley is tender and all liquid is absorbed.

2. From lemon, coarsely grate 1 teaspoon peel and squeeze 3

tablespoons juice. In large bowl mix lemon peel, lemon juice, olive oil, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper. Add barley; stir to coat with dressing. Cover and refrigerate mixture until chilled, about 1 hour.

3. Meanwhile, cut each green bean crosswise in half. In 2-quart saucepan over high heat, in 1-inch boiling water, heat green beans and 1/2 teaspoon salt to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 5 to 10 minutes until beans are tender-crisp; drain.

4. When barley mixture is chilled, stir in green beans, parsley, mint, and green onion until well mixed. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour to blend flavours.

About 35 minutes before serving:

5. Preheat broiler if manufacturer directs. Place beef top round steak on rack in broiling pan. Place pan in broiler at

closest position to source of heat; broil steak 15 to 20 minutes for rare or until of desired doneness, turning steak once. Place steak on cutting board; cut into bite-sized cubes. Sprinkle cubes with salt and coarsely ground black pepper to taste.

6. To serve, arrange barley mixture, beef cubes, and cherry tomatoes on large platter. Garnish salad with mint sprigs. Makes 6 main-dish servings. About 460 calories per serving.

Summer Vegetable Salad

1/3 cup olive or salad oil
3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
1 teaspoon minced fresh thyme or 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme leaves

1/2 teaspoon salt
2 large carrots
1 medium-sized yellow straight-neck squash (about 10 ounces)

1 medium-sized zucchini (about 10 ounces) 1 9-ounce package frozen Italian green beans

1 small head radicchio
1/4 cup toasted pine nuts (pignoli), optional

About 3 hours before serving or early in day:

1. In large bowl, with wire whisk or fork, mix olive or salad oil, vinegar, Parmesan, thyme, and salt.

2. Cut carrots, yellow straight-neck squash, and zucchini into 3" by 1/2" strips. Place vegetables in bowl with dressing. Meanwhile, prepare Italian green beans; drain. Place beans in bowl with vegetables. Cover and refrigerate vegetables at least 2 hours to blend flavours.

3. To serve, tear radicchio into bite-sized pieces. Toss radicchio and pine nuts with vegetables. Makes 6 accompaniment servings. About 195 calories per serving.



Cajun fish kebabs

Cajun spiced fish kebabs

Choose a firm meaty-textured fish for threading onto the kebabs such as halibut, monkfish, or the more exotic shark or swordfish. If you prefer to serve an alternative to kebabs, the spice paste can be spread directly onto whole fish steaks or fillets, in which case any firm white fish would be suitable for the recipe.

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

1 lb (450g) firm white fish, eg 1" (2-1/2cm) thick steaks, skinned and boned

1 tbsp cumin seeds
2 tsp coriander seeds
1/2 tsp fennel seeds
1/2 tsp dried oregano

1 tsp paprika
1/2 tsp Tabasco sauce
1 clove garlic, peeled and crushed

1/2 lemon or lime, juice of
1 tbsp olive oil
freshly ground black pepper
8 fresh bay leaves
12 cherry tomatoes

Fry the cumin, coriander and fennel seeds together in a dry,

heavy-bottomed pan until they begin to darken slightly and release a puff of aroma.

Cool the seeds and grind to a powder with a pestle and mortar. Add the oregano, paprika, Tabasco sauce, garlic and lime juice and a generous amount of black pepper.

Mix well with the spice powder and blend in the olive oil.

If you are following the recipe for kebabs cut the fish of your choice into rough 1" (2-1/2 cm) cubes, place in a non-metallic dish and toss with most of the spice mixture until each chunk is evenly coated. (If you prefer, simply spread the spice mixture evenly over each fish steak and grill.)

Thread the fish chunks onto kebab skewers alternately with bay leaves and cherry tomatoes. Grill the fish for ten minutes.

TOURIST RESTAURANT

Special dishes in winter

Specialists in authentic



Punjabi, Mughlai and Tandoori cuisine, prepared by Iftikhar Ahmed, expert chef from Lahore. Expert in cooking Mutton Biryani, Reshmi Kabab, Chicken Kerahi & Mutton Kerahi. Open for lunch and dinner. Takeaway also available.

Free parking available

Special dishes
Mutton Badami
Prawn Tandoori
Fish Tikka



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لاہور کے مشہور شیف افتخار احمد نے بنائی ہوئی برائی ٹیجی کباب

کڑی مرغ اور کڑی گوشت مشہور عام ہے اس کے تیار کردہ صبح ڈائنے

والے بنائی، منجھنی اور رست درستی کھانے۔

• بیج اور ٹونڈو کے علاوہ پارسل جانے کی سہولت بھی موجود ہے۔

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Whether a delightful snack or a sumptuous meal, Al-Mubarakiah remains the ideal place for executives and families. Featuring daily buffet, lunch and dinner.

MUCH MORE

Saturdays: Children under 10 years free accompanied by adults (offer limited to 4 children).

Sundays: Ladies Day/Ladies receive Half price

Mondays: Celebrate your birthday and enjoy a complimentary birthday cake.

Price: KD 4.000 Children half price

Special discount granted to parties of 8 or more.

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That SPECIAL MEAL OF THE WEEK!
(Your weekend is incomplete without it!)

At KD.4.500, it's a real treat
Children half price Soft drinks free!

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Messilah Beach Hotel Kuwait



فندق شاطئ المسيلة الكويت

MANAGEMENT: Kuwait Hotels Company S.A.K.

Kuwait International Hotel presents

OYSTER MUSSEL

PROMOTION
Nov. 18-30



Shellfishly, we present our freshly airfrown Mussels and Oysters

Try our tempting creations from Southern France:

• Oysters baked with Spinach and Cheese
• Clear Oyster Tea

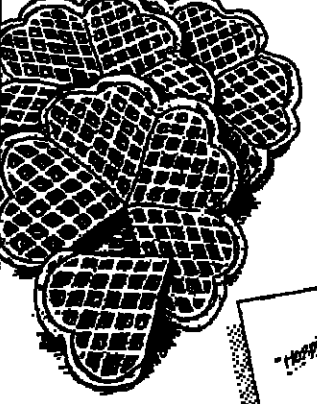
Failaka Restaurant
Tel: 2530000/8012

WAFFLE promotion

Nov 16 - Dec 14

Have your choice of waffle while it is prepared in front of you:

• Fresh Fruit Waffle
• Chocolate & Banana Waffle
• Ice Cream Waffle
• Tropical Waffle, and
• Traditional Waffle with Maple Syrup



AT LA PATISSERIE
In the Afternoon
Tel: 2530000/8014

Mackerel with a soya glaze



A popular fish in Japan and easily available, mackerel responds well to this unusual soy marinade. The combination counteracts the richness of the mackerel.

Preparation time: 10 minutes, plus 20 minutes' marinating.
Cooking time: 5 minutes
Serves 4

4 small or 2 large mackerel, filleted heads removed
coarse sea salt
For the marinade:
1 tbsp caster sugar
4 thin slices lemon

Rinse the fish, remove the fins with scissors and leave the tail intact.

To prepare the marinade, mix together the soy sauce, and sugar until all the sugar crystals have dissolved. Add the lemon slices to the mixture.

Score the mackerel at 1/4" (5mm) intervals.

Turn the fish in the marinade to coat thoroughly, cover and leave in a cool place for 20 minutes. Place the fish skin-side-up on the grill pan and sprinkle with a little coarse sea salt. Grill for four to five minutes, depending on the thickness of the fish. Turn over and cook for a further minute.

The soy-glazed mackerel can be served either hot or cold, and is good accompanied by slices of lemon, a tomato and onion salad and an array of autumnal salad leaves.

Tourist: an eating merry-go-round

YOU don't have to be tourist to go to the Tourist Restaurant. The Tourist Restaurant which entertains all those visitors who have sufficient appetite for food and have a taste for Punjabi cuisines that it offers.

The name, Tourist looks a bit misleading after you enter the restaurant. As you peer around before finding an empty seat you come across while walking on Shahrah Jahra or any other busy street.

You don't have to be essentially a Punjabi to go to

Tourist. All you need is an addition to spicy Punjabi dishes. The entire atmosphere of this little, but well-kept eating house is filled with aroma which sharpens your hunger.

The Tourist's menu has such a broad variety of cuisine to offer that even a pukka Punjabi can get confused in making a choice. "I always keep ready at least five shades of chapati," quips Mohinder Singh, who manages the Tourist with his business partner Chaudhry Mohammed Siddiq. Both have the gift of palate.

Anybody wanting to know the secret of restaurant business may learn a lot from these two gentlemen, provide you promise not to set up your own restaurant in Kuwait. You have to have a good palate to run a restaurant as you have to be a wine-taster to be a wine merchant.

The Tourist Restaurant is located opposite Plaza Hotel on Shahrah Jahra, no doubt a nice place to enjoy your food after day's work or a hectic shopping spree.

Taste the Quality of French Cheese.



MASSAD CO. W.L.L. TEL: 5732330-5721093

MASSAD
FOODSTUFF-DEALERS

Shakey's: home of world's greatest pizzas

SINCE 10 years Shakey's has become known as the home of the world's greatest pizza. They still make the pizza the same way as they did back then with

fresh pizza dough and only the finest ingredients. In addition to the famous pizza, Shakey's also serve world class secret recipe

chicken sandwiches, spaghetti and salad bar.

Open lunch buffet with more than 10 delicious hot items are

available at Salmiya restaurant between 12-4 pm.

Shakey's pizza restaurant is located in Salmiya beside Zahara Complex Tel. 5747670.

Almond: king of nuts

ALMOND is often referred to as the king of nuts due to the high nutritional value and versatility when used in the food. Since many people believe that almonds are fattening, it's time to banish some of the myths. While almonds do contain some fat they contain absolutely no cholesterol.

Almonds contained monounsaturated fats, which are good for your health. Monounsaturated fats are considered to be good for health because they act like biological vacuum cleaners, sucking up excess cholesterol in the bloodstream. Almonds also contain vitamins B and E which is very good for maintaining the skin. The magnesium content in almonds helps to reduce stress that people are increasingly suffering from in today's hectic lifestyle. Add to all these valuable nutrients iron and fibre and you have a near perfect snack food that is both delicious and healthy. Loma Linda University in California has just completed a six year study into diet and coronary disease. This study concluded that "nuts were the food item listed with statistically significant protection against heart attack death. Compared to a person who never ate

almonds, a person ate them at least once a day had only 47 per cent of the risk of fatal heart attack," said Dr Fraser co-author of the study, which was presented in June at the second International Conference on Preventative Cardiology. "Almonds seem to reduce the risk of both fatal and non-fatal heart disease," Dr Gary Fraser added.

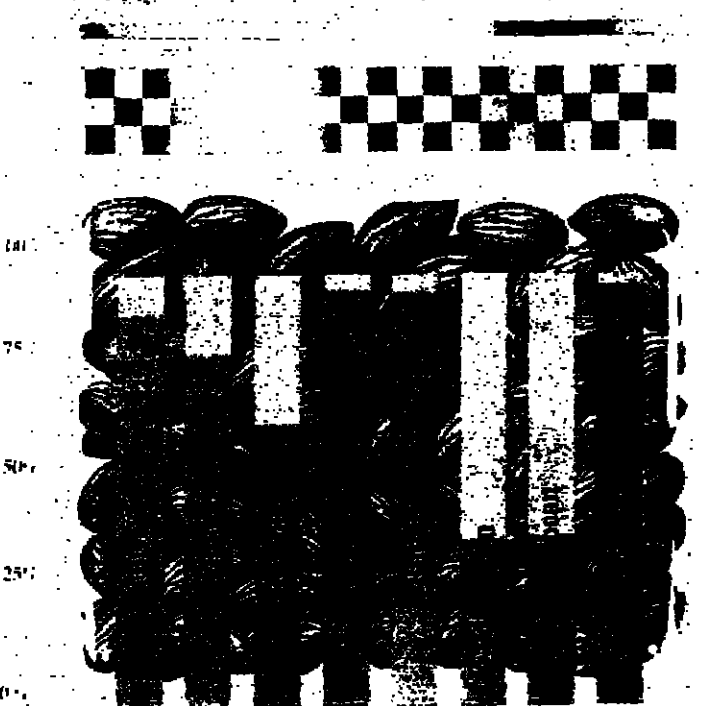
The protein content of almonds makes them splendid accompaniments to eggs, fish, meat, poultry or game. They make a delicious dish when combined with peas, beans and lentils.

Many vegetarians turn to a substitute for meat due to their high protein value.

Ground almonds can be used as thickeners in sauces and soups as well as to improve the protein power of pastry and breads.

On the whole, almonds make a far better snack than chocolates, crackers or cakes. Eaten in moderation, either as a snack or an ingredient in other foods, most health experts say almonds are a healthy addition to your daily diet.

Blue Diamond Almonds of California are the world's largest almond growers.



Fatty acid percentages in cooking oils

The quality restaurant Peking: an Oriental experience

THE "Peking Restaurant" is situated on the second mezzanine of Salmiya Complex, entrance 1 and 8, in Kuwait. The Restaurant has been decorated in the Chinese Royal style.

Tables wares are selected from the most luxurious China's china and cutlery. The atmosphere at Peking Restaurant, is filled with harmonious, oriental music which transfers the diner to another dimension — the forbidden city where young Chinese emperors used to reside and live.

Peking Restaurant is designed to please all senses and offers authentic Chinese specialties based on "Yu Sang" (Chinese emperor's dishes) and developed from "Lu" (Shandong), Chuan, Yue

(Cantonese) and Uigur Islamic specialties.

It can prepare Yu Sang, roasted duck, chicken, whole lamb, sea food, and beaneard feasts, etc. and cordially invites to taste the finest delicate shark's fins, shrimps, fishes, chicken authentic Peking roasted duck, beef and mutton, dessert cold assorted meat, cold dishes, salad, hor d'oeuvres, pies, soups, biscuits and cakes, noodle, rice and dumplings.

In general, there is a variety of delicious dishes and food served.

In order to make dinner convenient for the diner the restaurant also undertakes banquet and reservation, serves breakfast, and fast food, and accepts take away order for Chinese and Western foods as well Arabian special.

Quality Food
Luxury & gorgeous Peking Restaurant with Chinese royal style.

Taste for yourself

- Authentic Chinese emperor's dishes
- Exclusive Peking roasted duck
- Delicate & delicious shark's fins & shrimps
- Prawns, mutton, beef & chicken hot plates
- Catering for get-togethers, parties, weddings, functions etc.

Come try our sumptuous Chinese specialties. So reserve your table now and we will ensure you most pleasant & memorable dining experience.

PEKING CHINESE RESTAURANT
Salmiya Comm. Complex, 2nd Mezzanine
Next to Meridian Hotel, Lift No. 1 & 8
Tel: 2433287, 2433367

Business Hours Lunch 12-3:30 pm Supper 6-11:00 pm

NEW FLAVOUR

BLUE DIAMOND

Almonds Chili with lemon

Special launch of our new mouth-watering flavour Chili with Lemon! Very soon at The Sultan Center Restaurants - Sea front and Jeans cafe - Sultan Center Salmiah.

The search for the perfect snack is over! Good nutrition and great taste - Blue Diamond has the perfect snack or crunchy ingredient for unique dishes. Almonds are naturally enriched with healthy vitamins, protein and magnesium. This healthful and delicious nut contains absolutely no cholesterol. And Blue Diamond almonds come in so many flavours, you'll never run out of good taste.

Barbecue flavour

Honey Roasted flavour

Hickory Smoke flavour

Onion & Garlic flavour

Cheese flavour

Roasted Blanched Salted flavour

Roasted & Salted flavour

BLUE DIAMOND

Al Zahem & Malhotra
General Trading & Contracting Co. W.L.L.
Tel. 2409486/7

EVENTS

Philippine Community Day

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Philippine Community Day on Friday, November 24, at the SAS Tent at 6.00 pm in co-operation with the Philippine embassy. This big event will coincide with the selection of "Hiyas ng Pilipinas - Kuwait '89," a personality and talent contest. The theme of this year's celebration is Nostalgia Filipina.

This year's project's main objective is to bring more Filipinos closer and to ease their loneliness and homesickness.

Kapilku president Manny Inserto is optimistic that this year's celebration will tighten ties among Filipinos in Kuwait in all walks of life. The proceeds of this project will be utilised in the less fortunate members of the association.

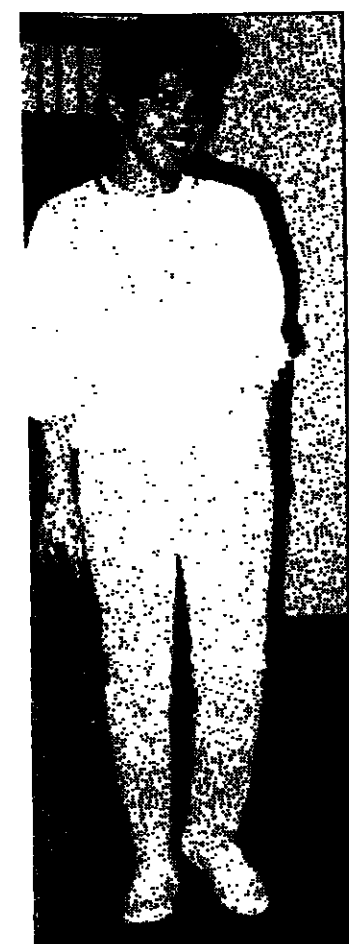
All the guests will be treated to an extravaganza of

music in love songs, modern to rock 'n' roll, plus cultural shows to be performed by well-known Filipino singers and artists.

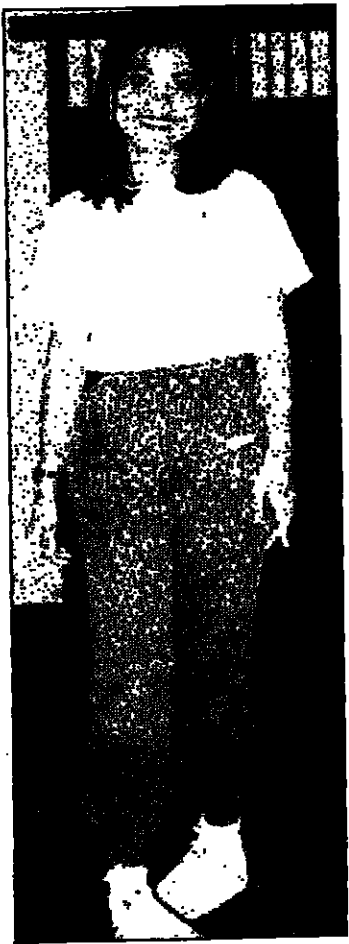
A colour TV and other valuable prizes could be won by the guests in the Raffle Contest. Versatile Sarah Macarimbang, VP for Social and Cultural Affairs is the chairperson of this big and colourful project while flamboyant Jun Mercado is the vice-chairman.

Energetic Thelma A. Sanial, finance officer of the Philippine embassy is the production consultant and debonair Manny Tupas is the musical director. Tickets are available at General Admission, Premiere and deluxe.

For particulars, please contact the chairperson on 4843447 or the vice-chairman on 4899418.



Millette Domingo



Mylene dela Cruz



Marie Sanchez

Three of the twelve contestants in the Hiyas ng Pilipinas - Kuwait '89 selection, pose for their photograph during their cultural rehearsal at the SAS Hotel Tent.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING PERIOD

- 9.40 Opening and Holy Quran. Sabah Al Kher: news and variety
10.00 Around the World: Cartoon Serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Fi Muntasaf Al Lail: Local serial (part 10)
11.30 Sabah Al Kher: news and variety
11.40 Taaleel: Bedouin Serial, starring Sameera Khouri, Waleed Barakat, Ali Al Smair and Rifat Al Najjar
12.30 News Summary
12.35 Sabah Al Kher: news
12.37 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING PERIOD

- 4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Alice in Wonderland: Cartoon Serial (Part 25)
5.15 Agricultural Magazine: Local programme, presented by Yaqoob Al Younsfi
5.35 Local programme
5.45 Night chemists,

airlines and official advertisements

- 6.00 Al Islam Hadhara: Religious serial (part 14)
7.15 Sports star: sports programme, prepared and presented by Mutlaq Nassar

- 7.55 Made in Kuwait: Informational programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkhi

- 8.30 Good Evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic

- 9.45 Tareq Min Al Sama: Arabic serial (part 15)
10.35 Variety Late night Show with guest Ahmad Sudqi (Part 2)

- 11.45 News Summary
11.50 The World Today via Satellite

- 12.15 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 Diplopos: a cartoon series for children
6.30 The Electronic Office: A look at modern innovations and technologies introduced to modern business

- 7.00 Watch All Night. The girl continues her search to find her kidnapped father where she seeks the help of a young man...

- 7.30 Fishing the West "Alaska". A look at fishing on Alaska rivers and lakes...

- 8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law:
8.45 The Twilight Zone. "Roadless Travelled"

- A deserter from the Vietnam war is haunted by a guilt complex where he imagines what could happen to him had he waged the war!

- 9.15 The Great Space Race "The Payload in the Sky. The development of rockets, satellites and space labs, by the Soviet Union, USA, Japan, China and the European countries."

- 10.00 Different World
10.30 Murphy's Law When There is a Will, There is a Way!! Murphy's colleague is promoted to a higher position where the latter insists on appointing a new beautiful secretary!!

- 11.30 News in Brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite



On KTV 2 at 10.00 pm: Different World

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus Shock Troop

Al Sahitya Moon Trap

Al Hamra Ninja Warrior of Fire

Drive-In Arabic film

Al Firdous Janam Janam

Fahadhel Open-air Daulat

Al Fahadhel Oliver Twist

Al Jahra Apoph

Granada Charithram

Salaikhath Raging Vendetta

Al Jleeb A Wara Witness Ahmad Drive-In Arabic film

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

Fahadhel, Al Dabooos Street
Old Khitan
Al Wadda Pharmacy
Main Street
Jahra
Al Ahraj Pharmacy
Dahab Al Khozai Street

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.54 am
Zuhr	11.34
Asr	3.31 pm
Maghreb	4.51
Isha	6.11

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 — 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 — 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am — 12.30 pm.

Watercolour Painting
LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills. New 8 week course in Drawing & Painting for adults. For details tel: 5618847.

SOCIAL

Yuletide Fayre

Do not miss the Yuletide Fayre being organised by St Paul's Church, Ahmadi from 2 pm to 5 pm on the afternoon of Friday, 1st December at the British embassy compound. There will be stalls for Christmas gifts, handicrafts and books as well as for cakes and preserves. There will be entertainment, including Santa Claus, for the children. Refreshments will be available.

Pianist wanted
KUWAIT Little Theatre — Ahmadi urgently require a pianist to help with their pantomime rehearsals and performances. Anyone interested, please call S. Prescott on 3725960 after 3 pm.

Carnival Night

The long waited Carnival Night will be held for the first time in Kuwait with popular bands "Top Ranks" and "Perfect Strangers" vibrating up the Carnival Spirit to bring out their best music ever. So all you folks look ahead for more details through this column for the precise date in the month of February, 1990.

People's Trust Club

DEC 29: People's Trust Club welcomes you to a day of your life at Ramada Al Salam (Marriott) Hotel, New Ballroom from 10.30 am onwards. Nimble feet, hungry palate, perfect blend of music and style. A get-together with buffet. Featuring Stepping Stones, Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers. There will be novelty and surprises galore. Contact Columbus on 4348218.

Jazz Night

NOV 29: In response to overwhelming demand, once again Phil Thomas and the "High Spirits" will be extending their "Jazzical" repertoire for your enjoyment. From 8 pm to 12 midnight. Phone: 5640981.

Kuwait Goats

DEC 15: Annual children's X'mas tree function will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Friday, December 15, '89 from 9.30 am onwards. Lots of prizes and surprises awaits for one and all. Top Ranks in attendance.

To avoid disappointment call for your early bookings on 2413348.

Get together

DEC 22: Southerners welcome you once again to a family get-together at Le Mirage Hall at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel at 10 am.

December Delights

DEC 8: Expatriates Club announces its Yuletide gala-social for children and adults at the SAS 'Tent' Hotel from 0930 hours onwards. Gifts for all children, fancy dress, hamper prizes, lunch buffet, gifts, prizes and surprises from the sponsors and the club. Book early for table reservations. Wilson 3918938, Val 5614506 (after 4 pm) and Tony 5655056 (after 5 pm). Music by Stepping Stones.

Fancy Dress Competition

DEC 8: Joint annual family get-together has been shifted to Kuwait Regency Palace for the convenience of all members on 8th Dec from 10.00 am onwards. Live music from the Top Ranks, fancy dress competition, free gifts from Santa and games for children. Members are requested to collect their passes from the managing committee or call Joe 3981790/Satu 3921712.

Kuwait Cultural Centre
THE Kuwait Cultural Centre is opening a French Language course to be held on Saturdays and Mondays. For further detail please contact 5624393.

Exhibition

AN exhibition of superb replica of trees and plants which uniquely couple lifelike fabric foliage with natural trunks and branches. Select for more than 20 different varieties of plants and trees for the size space. On display at the lower lobby of the Kuwait International Hotel. Details at: 2407029.

British Council

85th birthday tribute to Graham Greene — The British Council is holding an 85th Birthday Tribute to Graham

Greene with an exhibit of a set of poster about his life and works during the whole month of November. On 25 Nov and Sunday, 26th Nov, film adaptations of "Brighton Rock" and "The Human Factor" will be shown at the Gallery starting at 5.00 pm. Admission is free but please book seats by calling 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

Hobby centre

New Courses in Jewellery making and design for adults. For children there is Pottery starting next month for 6 weeks. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Fiesta Extravaganza

The Filipino Cultural Club, in its continuous effort to pursue its commitment to promote goodwill, offer wholesome entertainment, and carry out the club's objectives, will be staging Fiesta Extravaganza '89 (An FCC Christmas Special) on 8th December 1989, a Friday, at the plush Hotel Meridien from 5 pm. This 'year-end affair' will be presented by the FCC as a special way of thanking the club's friends, supporters and well-wishers for their continuous support and patronage. As the year 1989 comes to a close, FCC looks forward to being with you for an enjoyable pre-Christmas get-together. Guests can look forward to another very entertaining evening — FCC style, with a sumptuous dinner and a special show for which the club has been widely reputed for. In

addition, there will be a raffle draw featuring valuable prizes for many, as well as dancing for everyone's enjoyment.

Proceeds of the show will be used for the club's welfare projects and surely enough, your kind patronage will go a long way in helping the FCC with their commitment to the less privileged Filipinos in Kuwait.

A limited number of tickets are now available for KD5 at the following outlets: Philippine Gift Shop at the Souk Al Kabir and Mabuhay Restaurant at the Carlton Hotel.

For more details, please contact Florence Delos Santos; Tel. 2439451 or 2436121; Tolis Matig-a Tel. 2417766; Jun Sta. Maria and other members of the club.

Musical Show

DEC 1: Musical Entertainment show at Doha Entertainment City in 'Starlight Theatre' with Live Rock 'n' Roll, Pop and Reggae music from the most popular and dynamic beat groups of Kuwait.

'Top Ranks' and 'Next of Kins'. The Highlights: Fancy dress competition, live stage performance of jive, break dance and solo dancing by Joe Misquita, Tony & their dancing group. Including many surprises.

For complete details Twinkle on: 4879455 ext. 298 (4 pm to 9 pm); Hilary, 2649442; John Philip, 2546890 (after 8 pm); Tom and Luiza, 2661370.

For tickets contact: Andrew at Dreamland Tailor's, 1st floor, above Raja Stores, opp. Canara Exchange.

NB: Transportation is available.

Thursday Night Fever

The Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait will hold another interaction evening for the beneficiaries of its welfare projects which it conducts in coordination with the Welfare officer of the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration. The evening promises rhythmically pulsating dance music for all dance floor aficionados. The project is entitled "Thursday Night Fever" and is scheduled to be held on Thursday, the 30th of November 1989 at 5.30 pm at the Meridien Hotel's Al-Jahra Ballroom.

Meanwhile FLASSIK invites everyone to join their "LOVE DRIVE." Used clothing, linens, toiletries and canned goods are welcome. Please contact any FLASSIK officers if you have any donations. And for those looking forward to the yule season we invite you to the "CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT" under the talented conductress Gilda Navarro and the Filipino choir. Watch out for more details.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and it's going to be a nite to celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for

others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel: 5331940, 2413706 (res).

Musical Nights with Adnan Butt

A variety of popular Indian and Pakistani songs, ghazals and gets to be presented in exclusive musical gatherings on four consecutive Thursdays starting from November 23, 1989 at various locations in Kuwait. For details contact 3919720, 3610088 and 4743955.

Filipino Choral Group

DEC 16: The spirit of Christmas is just around the corner and the Filipino Choral Group in its traditional bid to bring cheer, love and goodwill to all Christians in Kuwait will present a 30-minute repertoire of English and Filipino Christmas carols on December 16, 5 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral.

This prelude to the first day of Misa de Gallo is organised by Ed Oras and to be conducted by Hilda Navarro-both working as medical technologists in Farwaniya Hospital.

Turkish Dinner

TURKISH community in co-operation with Turkish embassy organised an evening dinner on Thursday 23rd of November, 8.00 pm, in Al Ramada Hotel.

All Turkish nationals are invited for the occasion. For further information contact Dr Baki Koyuncu Tel: 4845882.

German Speaking Cultural Association

WE want to inform all our German speaking society and their friends about two forthcoming events. The first will be the WINTER GALA at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel in the Grand Ballroom on Wednesday November 29 at 8.00 pm. It will include an exquisite buffet and valuable prizes. Tickets are available at the German and Austrian embassies, the German school, the German library, and on the 29th from the Sheraton from 7 pm onwards.

The second event will be our traditional BAZAAR for all with beautiful handicrafts. This will be on November 30 at 5 pm in the Kuwait International Hotel's Old Failand Room.

Daniella Children's Party

ALL Danes in Kuwait are invited for the annual children's party "Juletrae" to be held at the Gazelle Club on Friday December 15 at 3 pm. Tickets to be purchased from Inge on 3727688 ext 207 or Winnie on 5733382 before December 10.

Shared Mela

AFTER successfully organising Deep-Dewali Salkaar is now going to organise Shared-Mela at Indian Arts Circle, Funaites on 1st December 1989, at 10.00 am. There will be food stalls of delicious cuisines along with fun and games stalls like Lucky Seven, Fortune Wheel etc. The big attraction will be two Grand Raffle Draws with a Game of Bingo. For entry passes and further information contact, Bril Vallabh - 2510146, or V.K. Agarwal - 5728621.

Ecole Francaise

THE Ecole Francaise in Surrah is pleased to offer its students, for relaxation at the end of the first term, On November 22, at 11 - 12.30 a Fantastic Live Magic Show by Marco, The International Magic Prince.

May Day! May Day!

THE Kuwait International Hotel is now embarrassed with the size of the turkey they have obtained for their Thanksgiving dinner on the 23rd of November. It has arrived safe, sound and healthy but the 67 pounder measuring about two feet square refuses to enter the hotel's oven... because the oven doors are only 16 inch x 18 inch. They have less than 72 hrs to go and the kitchen brigade is in a state of panic. A brainstorming session is on and a solution is yet to be made. A dinner for two on Thanksgiving Night is offered to anybody who can suggest some way of cooking the bird intact!

Silpassala

A FORUM for Malayalee writers and literary enthusiasts has been recently formed under the title, "SILPASSALA." The forum is devoted to literary activities including discussions and study classes on Malayalam literature. It will also organise literary competitions and give "awards" for outstanding works, including poems, essays, short-stories and novels. The forum will make necessary arrangements publish the award-winning works.

A committee has been formed to conduct the forum. P.C. Harish has been elected as the convener of the forum. Executive members of the committee are Balan Nambiar, P.M. Sudhakaran, Kaipattor Thankachan, and Lissy Kuriaose. An advisory committee comprising K.R. Prasad, Hassan Thikkody, Thomas Chittetham has also been formed.

The forum anticipates sincere co-operation from the lovers of Malayalam literature. Those who are interested may please contact convener, 'Silpassala', P.O. Box 909, pin code 13010 Safat - Kuwait.

SPORTS

Swimming/Life saving

Swimming/Life saving courses with Royal Life Saving Society coach and grade 1 examiner will be commencing at Messilah Beach Hotel club. For more details please phone ext: 739/751.

Y.M.C.A.

DEC 8: Incredible — Y.M.C.A. Annual family gathering at "Le Mirage" Ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel on the 8th of Dec '89 from 10 am onwards. With live music from Santa, games & fancy dress competition for children. Lots of prizes & surprises for everyone!

For reservations contact: Joe 3981790 (3 to 5 pm), Satu 3921712 (6 to 8 pm).

Football League

Anybody interested in joining a soccer league, preferably already belonging to a team, please call Bob or Alan on 5386444.

Punjabi Adabi Sangat

The monthly meeting of Punjabi Adabi Sangat will be held in Abbasiya at 9.30 pm at the residence of Rashid Mewati. Dr Palwinder Singh Jathol and Baqi Ahmed Puri will present articles and poems respectively for criticism. Participating poets will recite their poems at the end of the meeting.

Yoga morning classes

MESSILAH Beach Hotel yoga morning classes will commence Tuesday, November 28, at 9.30 am, 5 classes KD 10/- to register contact 5624111 ext 739/751.

Laser sailing

"SHEPARD Laser Chase Trophy Race," November 24 brisling at 9.30 sharp. All Messilah Beach Laser members invited, limited amount of club boats available for anyone wishing to join this exhilarating dinghy sailing sport. For further details, please contact D. Clark 4845171 (Office), 2451791 (Home) or R. Brown 4736167 (Office), 5325139 (Home).

Open Badminton Tournament

IT is with great pleasure that we once again give this open invitation to all badminton players in Kuwait to take part in the annual Open Badminton Tournament.

The tournament will be held between Saturday, November 25th and Thursday November 30th, 1989 at the KOC Sports Centre Ahmadi.

Timings for each day's play will be as follows:

Saturday 25th, November through Wednesday 29th November (1900 hrs to 2200 hrs.)



Greek Taverna at the Kuwait Meridien Hotel

A great way to enjoy an evening of Greek music, food and fun! La Brasserie will be featuring authentic Greek dishes, including a variety of mezzah. Every Tuesday at La Brasserie promises to be a great night out, with real bouzouki music and dreamy Greek island atmosphere. Don't fly to Greece... Greece will be at the Meridien Hotel every Tuesday.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Kuwait trade fair planned in Baghdad

By M.C. Doss
Business editor

A KUWAITI trade fair will be organised in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad next month.

The one-week long fair is being held in accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries. Director of Foreign Trade at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Badar Abdul-Rahim, told the Arab Times yesterday that over 95 Kuwaiti establishments and companies will take part in the fair.

It will be opened on Dec 6 by the Iraqi Commerce Minister, Dr Mohammad Mahdi Saich, and continue till Dec 12.

The opening will be attended by Kuwait's Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khaled, who will lead a high ranking delegation to Baghdad.

The delegation will consist of representatives from various sectors and departments in the country, including senior officials from the ministry, Kuwait Investment Authority, investment companies, Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, the Banking Committee, the Contractors Union, and the Land Transporters Union.

People will be allowed to buy directly from the fair with a maximum allowed amount of \$2 million.

Abdul-Rahim said this was the first time Kuwait organised a trade fair in Iraq. He added that the fair will give an opportunity to local businessmen to be acquainted with Iraqi markets, and will also help create more opportunities for stimulating economic co-operation between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khaled, will open the Iraqi trade fair in Kuwait on Saturday, Nov 23, at the International Fair-ground in Meshrif.

Iraqi Commerce Minister, Dr Saich, will attend. The trade attaché at the Iraqi embassy in Kuwait, Rahim Hussain, said that over 35 Iraqi industrial establishments, in addition to many Iraqi industrialists and businessmen will take part in the fair.

The Iraqi commerce minister will hold on Sunday at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a seminar to explain the new Iraqi investment law and opportunities it provides particularly for Arab investors.

Rahim Hussain also announced that the Iraqi-Kuwaiti Transit and Customs affairs joint committee will meet shortly in order to discuss ways to solve obstacles and difficulties in the fields of transportation, communication and customs.

He added that the Iraqi and Kuwaiti commerce ministers will hold a meeting in Kuwait to discuss ways of improving trade and economic bilateral relations. They will search for new ideas to promote more trade exchange between Iraq and Kuwait.

Arabs near new stage in downstream operations

Gulf revives oil lending plan

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Nov 20, (AP): The six-member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council today revived a three-year-old "emergency oil lending plan" under which any country facing a crisis situation would be bailed out by its sister GCC states.

After a 90-minute meeting, the GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, Abdullah Al Quwaiz, told a press conference that experts will be meeting to discuss the plan.

He said they also agreed in principle to lend crude oil to any member state in case of emergency and that the oil would be counted part of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries production quota for the recipient, not the lender.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia with Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the host United Arab Emirates.

The plan was first circulated at the height of the eight-year Iraq-Iran war, when concern grew about Iranian strikes against GCC oil installations.

The motivation for reviving the plan 15 months after a ceasefire halted the Iraq-Iran war was not immediately clear.

Quwaiz said a "unified oil strategy" for the GCC had been lined up and a committee of experts would meet in May 1990 to discuss comments of member states on the contents. He did not give specifics however.

The six GCC states held their meeting following participation in the semi-annual ministerial session of Opec, which stresses closer co-ordination among all Arab oil producers particularly in "downstream" facilities such as pipelines, refining and marketing.

Opec also includes Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Egypt, with the latter attending after a 10-year hiatus because of its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

The marathon Arab oil meetings had seven heavyweight Opec members present — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE, and Iraq, Algeria and Libya.

Officials made a point of saying that neither the GCC nor Opec held formal talks on production and pricing topics to be discussed at Vienna.

However, conference sources confirmed that the Gulf oil ministers who double in Opec did discuss these topics in Abu Dhabi.

Opec has to find a formula that will satisfy demands by some members for higher production ceilings while, at the same time, trying to avoid a major hike in the overall quota.

Oil Minister Mana Saad Otaiba said today that Arab oil producers were nearing a "new stage" in their marketing and refining operations when the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries met.

"The Arab world ranks first in the world whether it is in respect to production, reserves or marketing," Otaiba declared when he opened the two-and-a-half hour session.

"Opec is on the threshold of a new stage in its petroleum industry... a sphere that is vital for the Arab nation and its peoples."

He did not elaborate. But Gulf oil producers in particular have been driving to expand their downstream operations and invest in joint ventures around the world to move into the oil products market traditionally controlled by monopolies.

They also seek to capitalise on the relatively safer product pricing as compared to the more volatile prices of crude oil.

Saudi Arabia has been spearheading the move to invest in downstream operations in a drive to extract gasoline and petroleum distillates from heavy crude in strategic markets such as the United States and Western Europe.

The United States, Western Europe and the Far East have been emphasising the need for a cleaner environment, which is likely to force costly industrial changes. GCC countries have already pledged to produce more lead-free gasoline at their refineries.

Opec 'should be flexible on quota issue'

ABU DHABI, Nov 20, (Reuters): Algerian Oil Minister Sadek Boussemra said today Opec should take a flexible approach to resolve differences over quota allocations at its bi-annual meeting in Vienna.

"Quotas is an issue that should be studied by Opec with flexibility, Algeria supports an agreement by consensus which will ensure the unity of the organisation," Boussemra said after the Opec meeting in Abu Dhabi.

"We hope this agreement will be reached as soon as possible and in November," he added.

Opec oil ministers will meet in Vienna on November 25 to discuss output levels for the first half of 1990 and a possible redistribution of Opec's individual quota allocations.

Boussemra declined to answer questions on what level Opec should produce in the first quarter of next year.

"We will have to look at the figures of our experts who are still meeting in Vienna," he said.

He said oil prices were still strong, but acknowledged the organisation's present production was too high.

He also said Algeria was still opposed to Opec's September agreement which raised the 13-nation group's total output ceiling by one million barrels per day (BPD) to 20.5 million BPD.

"It was not an agreement. An agreement should be approved by all and all should abide by it to strengthen the price," he said.

Meanwhile, Arab oil ministers said today they would study the likely impact of environment lobbies worldwide on their oil exports.

Opec groups Opec members Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Algeria, Libya, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and non-Opec Syria, Egypt and Bahrain.

GCC seeks EEC flexibility

Petrochemicals restrictions

ABU DHABI, Nov 20, (Reuters): A leading Gulf official urged the European Economic Community (EEC) today to adopt a more flexible approach to its restrictions on cheaper Gulf petrochemicals.

Abdulla Al Quwaiz, assistant secretary general for economic affairs of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), said the EEC should be flexible on fixing quotas and a time-frame to lift its tariff barriers of 12 to 14 per cent.

The EEC Commissioner for Mediterranean policy and Latin American relations, Abel Matutes, will visit Saudi Arabia on Dec 3 to resolve differences over how much access Gulf products should be given in European markets, he said.

"We hope to hear something new from him," Quwaiz said in an interview after GCC oil ministers ended a meeting in Abu Dhabi which touched on future oil requirements, they should not put any obstacles that would hamper our efforts to develop our petroleum industry," Quwaiz said.

He said Bahrain's Development and Industry Minister Youssef Shirawi would explain the GCC position to more than 400 Gulf and European businessmen and officials at a meeting in Granada, Spain, in February 1990.

He also said there were plans to hold a joint meeting of EEC and GCC foreign ministers to discuss future co-operation.

"Until now the European Commission has not obtained the necessary authorisation to enter negotiations with the GCC to reach trade agreements," Quwaiz said.

He said internal differences over unified economic action weakened the GCC position, but GCC leaders would discuss a proposal by their trade and economy ministers to unify import tariffs within the next three years.

"Before we talk about a Gulf common market we should unify our tariffs towards outside world," Quwaiz said.

China's domestic debt more than \$21b

BEIJING, Nov 20, (AP): China has a domestic debt of 80 billion yuan (\$21.6 billion) and will begin incurring new debts to repay old ones with the approach of a peak repayment period next year, a senior economist said today.

Zhang Jialun, deputy director of the state debt management department under the Finance Ministry, told the official Xinhua news agency the government must repay 30 billion yuan (\$8.1 billion) in debts next year.

Zhang stressed that all debts will be paid off in time. However, the government also faces maturation next year of about \$7 billion of an estimated \$44 billion in foreign loans and has been hit by shortfalls in tax revenues as the economy slides toward recession.

Zhang said domestic bonds, revived in China in 1981, include 51 billion yuan (\$13.8 billion) in state treasury bonds, 5.4 billion yuan (\$1.4 billion) in construction bonds and 12 billion yuan (\$3.2 billion) in "value-preserving" bonds.

State workers are now required to buy two types of bonds: state bonds, which amount to about four per cent of yearly income.

The state issued 12 billion yuan (\$3.2 billion) in public debt bonds in June, and gave workers until the end of the year to buy them. The bonds mature in three years.

Zhang said in 1981 bonds were of 10-year duration and provided interest of only four per cent, but that now they mature in two or three years. The interest rate has jumped from 14 per cent at the beginning of this year to about 20 per cent now.

China's inflation rate is also about 20 per cent.

The government says its budget deficit for the past few years has been around 8 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion), but Western economists say it could be as much as four times that amount if foreign loans and the issuance of treasury bonds were included.

The budgetary crisis has worsened in recent months as a sharp economic downturn, fallout from a yearlong austerity programme, has cut tax revenues from money-losing factories and left many state-run enterprises without funds to repay loans from the state.

Beijing's conservative leaders, who are stressing that large state-owned industries must be the mainstay of China's socialist economy, have also been forced into shelling out billions of yuan in subsidies to keep inefficient, unprofitable industries afloat.

US plans to cut military spending

Sterling under pressure

LONDON, Nov 20, (Reuters): US plans to cut military spending following huge political change in Eastern Europe have hit shares in defence companies today and dragged down stock markets on both sides of the Atlantic.

The pound sterling was also under pressure, battered to its lowest close against the mark for nearly three years by the rise of the West German currency and by worries about British trade figures due later this week.

The London Stock Exchange fell sharply as shares in defence companies dropped following US press reports that Washington planned to cut military spending by \$180 billion from 1992 to 1994.

US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said on Sunday that budget constraints and changes in Eastern Europe would mean significant reductions for the US armed forces.

Shares in British Aerospace, Britain's biggest weapons company, lost 24 pence (36 cents) to close £5.14 (\$7.80) lower.

London share dealers said the market had also been dragged down in the slipstream of sterling's plunge, warning over fears that already high interest rates would be raised further to defend the currency.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares finished 38.3 points lower at 2,183.1.

It was a similar picture on Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average stood 22.97 points lower at 2,629.69 by noon in New York.

"The defence stocks are carrying everything down," said one US broker. "It's causing a negative psychology in the market."

In currency trading, sterling came under pressure as the market began to focus on Britain's October trade figures, due out on Thursday.

"People are generally presuming that the figures will not show an improvement on the previous month," said one dealer.

Economists contacted by Reuters expect a trade deficit of £2 billion (\$3.1 billion) after £1.9 billion (\$3 billion) in September.

The mark continued to benefit from relatively high interest rates, dealers in Frankfurt said.

They said it was also supported by a belief that developments in East Germany would help Bonn sustain strong economic growth and this would leave little scope for the West German Bundesbank to ease monetary policy.

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OBITUARY

Louis, Edmond, Nabih, Atef, Alia Nakhoul will receive condolences for the loss of their beloved brother

GEORGES NAJIB NAKHOUL

at their home in Salwa, Plot No. 10, Street No. 2, Building No. 433, 2nd floor, opposite Officers' Club on 22nd, 23rd & 24th November, 1989 from 5 pm.

A requiem mass will be held in Salmiah Greek Catholic Church on Friday, November 24, 1989 at 11 am.

May His Soul Rest in Peace

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY: High turnover in Santos shares after elders resources NZFP sold its 12 per cent stake dominated an otherwise lacklustre day on the Australian share market. The All Ordinaries index rose 1.3 to 1635.6.

TOKYO: Tokyo share prices succumbed to gravity after climbing eight consecutive sessions last week. The Nikkei Index fell 70.16 to close at 35,893.58.

HONG KONG: Share prices rose but finished off early gains. The Hang Seng index rose 15.99 to 2,820.28.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed broadly higher on renewed buying interest and bargain hunting. The Straits Times industrial index rose 7.65 points to 1,345.34.

BOMBAY: Share price ended mixed on across-the-board buying by state-owned investment trust after the market opened nervously ahead of general elections later this week.

FRANKFURT: German shares failed to rally on positive corporate news from the chemicals and pharmaceuticals sectors. The 30-share Dax Index closed 1.18 points higher at 1,532.70.

BUSINESS

Jordan invites firms to explore

After gas find

AMMAN, Nov 20, (Reuters): Jordan, until now a poor relation of its oil-rich Middle Eastern neighbours, is inviting foreign firms to explore for oil and gas near the Iraqi border where drillers made a promising gas find last month.

"There are tremendously optimistic signs," said Peter Sherrington, the Amman-based operations director of state-owned Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC).

"We are extremely hopeful of the area producing oil as well as gas," he told Reuters today.

Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan said last month the gas find was encouraging, but officials have not given details.

In October PCIAC extended by two years a technical assistance agreement with Jordan's Natural Resources Authority (NRA), raising its total value to 47 million Canadian dollars (\$40 million).

NRA director-general Kamal Jreisat and Arne Nielson, former president of Mobil Oil Canada, are heading a team to promote Jordan's hydrocarbons prospects in Houston, Texas, on December 4 and in Calgary, Canada, on December 7.

They hope to persuade companies to sign production-sharing agreements in a concession area of 14,000 square km (5,385 square miles) near Rishah in Eastern Jordan.

Sherrington said a wild dog there in August had shown that a field already producing 20 million cubic feet (600,000 cubic metres) a day from two wells as big as the one found last month.

"Rishah 16 is not fully evaluated, but it gives us cause to anticipate that the reserves figure will be significantly increased," he said.

Estimates based on the two producing wells put Rishah gas reserves at 0.26 trillion cubic feet (7.8 million cubic metres).

The wells, Rishah 3 and 6, fuel a power station commissioned at Rishah in May. The government plans to add two more 30 megawatt gas turbines to the two already installed there.

Current Rates

KUWAIT, Nov 20, (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29805	0.29920
Sterling	0.46680	0.46891
DM	0.16142	0.16217
S Fr	0.18238	0.18320
F Fr	0.04750	0.04771
LiLi	0.0002198	0.0002209
Jap yen	0.0020596	0.0020691
Bah din	0.79058	0.79385
UAE Dir	0.08113	0.08148
S. Riyal	0.07944	0.07978
Q. Riyal	0.08184	0.08224
O. Riyal	0.77595	0.77745

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Nov 20, (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates for local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-1/16	8-1/16
3 months	8-1/16	8-1/16
6 months	8-1/16	8-1/16
1 year	8-1/16	8-1/16

Exchange Rates

Indian rupee	17.750
Sri Lankan rupee	7.570
Pakistani rupee	14.120
Bangladesh taka	9.180
US dollar	299.10
Pound sterling	469.50
UAE dirham	0.140
Deutsche mark	16.220
Japanese yen	0.02076

Government policy threatens Japan's traditional rice farmers

TOKYO, Nov 20, (Reuters): Japanese farmers are worried that government efforts to keep down the size of rice stocks by limiting production are pushing growers off their traditional land.

"It's a hot issue in the northwestern rice-growing area near the town of Sakata, where some families have passed down the trade from generation to generation for more than two hundred years."

"Rice farmers are in trouble (because of) the government's programme to reduce rice acreage," said Joji Shibuya, managing director of the Sakata Agricultural Co-operative, a non-profit farmers group.

Sakata, in Yamagata prefecture, is one of country's oldest rice areas, with a climate and soil perfectly suited to the crop.

But rice paddies are disappearing left and right.

Acreage has been cut 18 per cent so far this year in Sakata and will probably be reduced

another 10 per cent in 1990, Shibuya said. Japan is self-sufficient in rice, its major agricultural commodity, and does not import or export the grain. The country produced 9.52 million tonnes of rice in 1988, just about matching national consumption.

But local farmers are able to produce much more — about 14 million tonnes a year — and the government is holding them back to avoid building up expensive excess stocks it cannot use.

Growers are worried the government will continue to shrink crop acreage as mechanised farming increases productivity and Japanese consumers eat less rice.

Experts say consumption is dropping by about two per cent each year nationwide as people switch from traditional to more Western food.

Increased productivity boosted rice stocks to 6.5 million tonnes by 1979 and Tokyo spent two trillion yen (\$14 billion) under a five-year

plan from 1979 to 1983 to get rid of the stocks, selling them cheaply for feed, industrial use and for export, according to an official of Zenchu, a major farmers co-operative.

"If such a disposal happens this time, the current rice control system will be completely destroyed," he said.

Rice stocks were expected to total 1.5 million tonnes by the end of November, not counting the 1989 crop. The government is hoping to keep it down to about one million.

Yoshinobu Imai, a 47-year-old farmer, converted nearly half of his rice fields to other crops in exchange for cash from the government, and started years ago to raise pigs on some of his land.

But he says rice-growing meant more money and less work.

"I have 30 sows now, but it's more trouble and less profitable to raise pigs than grow rice," he said.

"It cost me four million yen (\$27,500) to buy a harvester which can cut stems and gather rice up as well," said another farmer, 39-year-old Shigeki Abe.

Abe, with a family of seven, has cut his rice acreage down to 4.2 hectares (10.38) acres from 5.4 hectares (13.34) because of the government programme and earns about

three million yen (\$21,000) a year. He says that is hardly enough for the family to live on, especially with monthly payments on machinery, so he grows mountain vegetables in winter when his fields are covered with snow and his wife works in an office in town.

"Part-time rice farming has been a most stable way to keep the farmer's life going," said Shibuya of the farmers' co-operative.

The United States is pressing Japan to open its rice market to world trade, which could eventually mean the arrival of cheap imported rice and more problems for local growers.

Rice is the last major commodity which Japan has refused to import. The citrus fruit and beef trades are scheduled to be liberalised in 1991.

Japan's 1988 rice output generated about 3.2 trillion yen (\$22 billion), accounting for 30.9 per cent of all farm production.

"The only apprehension is that liberalisation will be further delayed if the opposition wins. It takes time to build channels to a new government."

Powered by liberalisation, industry has grown at an average annual rate of eight per cent over the past four years.

Poor monsoons in the 1985/86 and 1986/87 fiscal years and the century's worst drought in 1987 dented the economy, but it rebounded in the fiscal year 1988/89 to match when gross domestic product (GDP) grew 10 per cent in real terms.

The government expects average GDP growth of five per cent between 1989 and 1990, the period of India's seventh five-year plan.

Liberalisation slowed in 1987 when Rajiv found himself beset by turmoil in his own Congress Party and a scandal over

charges that the government took kick-backs in a \$1.3 billion deal with Sweden's Bofors armaments company.

Panandikar said businessmen now wanted foreign exchange controls relaxed along with restrictions on industrial expansion and believed they would be in next February's budget if Rajiv won.

Echoing the impatience over the pace of liberalisation, Panandikar said India needed to open up more to foreign investment and simplify bureaucratic red tape.

Bhaya said the government recognised investments were needed to service the foreign debt, estimated by the World Bank at \$48.8 billion at the end of 1988.

The only argument was where the investment should go, he said. "Foreign investors are always interested in India's domestic market, with a middle class estimated at 100 million. We want investments to improve export capability."

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Nov 20, (UPI): South Korean President Roh Tae Woo called yesterday for increased US trade and expressed interest in vast reserves of untapped Alaska natural gas, support that is key to a proposed \$11 billion gas pipeline project.

Alaska Governor Steve Cowper emerged from a meeting with Roh and said he expected Korea to sign a letter of intent next year to buy natural gas from Alaska, setting the stage for construction of what would be the largest privately financed project in the world.

Roh's visit put Seoul at the forefront of natural gas talks that previously had focused on Japan.

Roh told Cowper that South Korea planned economic expansion in the United States, largely through increased trade with Alaska, which already sells \$191 million of timber, coal and fish to Korea.

"I am confident that through increased trade and more frequent exchanges, a strong partnership can be established," Roh told Cowper in prepared remarks.

Following a private meeting, Cowper told a news conference that Korean gas purchases could tip the US-Korean trade imbalance in America's favour and make the mammoth gas line project possible.

"It's the largest single project in dollar volume in the world," Cowper said, noting that construction hinged on promises from Asian buyers to purchase gas.

"We're likely to see such a letter of intent in the future," Cowper said.

Yukon Pacific Corporation, the company behind the gas project, received federal Energy Department export approval Thursday, two days before Roh arrived in Alaska, and Cowper said, "We suggested that it might be good for them to make that decision before President Roh got here."

Yukon Pacific won permission to export 16.5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas over the next 25 years to South Korea, Japan and Taiwan. An 800-mile (1,287 km) pipeline would be built parallel to the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline to send gas from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez, where it would be liquefied for shipment to Asia. Energy Department officials said gas could begin flowing in 1996.

"We believe that Korea is the key market," Cowper said. "And by the way that has changed. Korea was secondary to Japan. We now see Korea as No. 1."

Roh's visit gave Korea a clear advantage, Cowper said. "Now Korea is regarded as the No. 1 lead nation in respect to Yukon Pacific and no longer Japan."

Walter Hickey, the former US interior secretary and Alaska governor who is chairman of Yukon Pacific, said Roh's visit was a significant step toward making the project a reality.

GCC to discuss possible gas grid

Plan to develop Qatar's national reserves

ABU DHABI, Nov 20, (Reuters): Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) officials will meet in Doha next month to discuss a possible gas grid to link the six-member group and ways to develop Qatar's vast North Field natural reserves.

"The meeting will decide if there will be a unified network or not in the light of quantities and prices," Abdullah Al Quwaiz, GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, told reporters.

Qatar began drilling in August in the North Field, the world's largest single natural gas field with reserves estimated at 350 trillion cubic feet.

Quwaiz was speaking after a meeting in Abu Dhabi of the oil ministers of the GCC, which groups Opec members Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates with non-Opec Bahrain and Oman.

He said the ministers agreed in principle that GCC states should lend crude oil to any member country whose supply was disrupted.

Such oil loans would be considered part of the recipient country's Opec quota, if both were Opec members.

The ministers also agreed on details of an emergency oil products lending plan among members, Quwaiz said. The plan was formulated during the Iran-Iraq war, when refineries and loading facilities of some GCC states came under attack.

Quwaiz said the president of the GCC oil ministers, Bahrain's Youssef Ahmed Shirawi, would lead a GCC delegation for talks on petrochemicals with the European Economic Community in Spain in February. The GCC wants the EEC to phase tariffs on its petrochemical exports.

"We have reached the first phase agreement with the EEC, which is an umbrella agreement, and we will continue discussions," Quwaiz said.

He added that the ministers, meeting ahead of a GCC summit in the Omani capital of Muscat

on Dec 18, did not discuss Opec issues.

Meanwhile, pump prices at US service stations dropped another three-quarters of a cent over the last two weeks, continuing a downward trend that began in early October, an oil industry analyst said yesterday.

Between Nov 3 and Nov 17 the average price of a gallon of gas dropped 0.75 cents to 107.51 cents, said Tribby Lundberg, who regularly surveys 12,000 stations nationwide.

The large drop followed a 0.95 per cent decrease during the previous two weeks.

Lundberg said the price decline stems from lower seasonal demand combined with strong crude oil production internationally, due in part to the recent raising of Opec quotas and greater US imports of finished gasoline.

"The import business grew substantially during the Valdez oil spill and supply scare, remained very strong during the summer and seems not to have

tailed off," she said.

The cost of a gallon of gasoline has declined steadily since the highs after the March 24 spill off the Alaska coast but remains about 7 cents per gallon higher than November 1988.

"Unless our own domestic refining output and imports should be reduced, then considering the season, prices could fall a little bit more, but it's too difficult to predict for sure or how much," Lundberg said.

The growing cost of environmental restrictions, such as leak-proof tanks and vapour-recovery systems, also could add to the pump price, she said.

Average pump prices, including taxes, at self-serve stations were 95.75 cents for regular unleaded, the most common purchase, 113.27 for premium unleaded and 94.80 for regular leaded.

The full-service stations regular unleaded sold on average for 126.39, premium unleaded for 139.29 and regular leaded 123.61.

Japanese aid for Poland and Hungary

TOKYO, Nov 20, (AP): The Japanese government has decided to provide about \$180 million in aid to Poland and Hungary, a Japanese newspaper said today.

Japan's financial support for Poland and Hungary will be announced at an international meeting on aid to the two countries to be held in Brussels on Friday, the mass-circulation Mainichi Shimbun reported.

The newspaper, quoting unidentified government sources, said Japan's aid to Poland is part of a Western support package totalling \$1 billion to that Eastern European country.

US Ambassador Michael Armacost said the US Congress has proposed aid to Poland and Hungary of \$930 million over the next few years. He called on Japan to join the Western aid package at the meeting Friday of the 2-nation Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development.

"We hope that Japan will join efforts to assist Eastern Europe's economic revitalisation with its typical generosity and far-sightedness," Armacost said in a speech at the Research Institute of Japan, an organisation supported by the Jiji Press News Agency.

A Foreign Ministry official confirmed that Japan would provide aid to the two countries but said the government has not yet decided how much it will provide.

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Japanese trade mission for US

Bid to promote imports

TOKYO, Nov 20, (UPI): A Japanese trade mission will make a 10-day tour of the United States, starting Dec 6, to help promote Japanese imports of US-made computer chips. The Electronic Industries Association of Japan said today.

The association said the trip is in response to a sales mission sent to Japan by US semiconductor suppliers in June this year under the sponsorship of the Department of Commerce.

The Japanese delegation will comprise 60 representatives of 14 companies, which are members of the Eiaj user's committee of foreign semiconductor, and 24 representatives of 16 companies from the Japan Auto Parts Industries Association's Council to promote imports of foreign-made semiconductors, the association said.

The delegation will be joined by representatives from US subsidiaries of Japanese companies, the Distributors Association of Foreign Semiconductors and the International Semiconductor Co-operation Centre, it said.

The objective of the mission is to promote access by the US suppliers to the Japanese market for semiconductors used in consumer electronics and automobile manufacturing, and thus to expand Japanese purchases of US-made semiconductors, the association said in a statement.

The mission will be sent jointly by Eiaj and Japia. Semiconductor trade between Japan and the United States has been a major source of friction between the two nations since 1986.

The US semiconductor industry blamed Japan for failing to live up to its pledge to increase imports of US-made chips to 20 per cent of the Japanese semiconductor market.

The Japanese industry disputes the argument but says it has been making efforts to increase imports of US-made chips and provide greater market access to US suppliers.

Japan's imports of electronic equipment and devices, including semiconductors, for the first half of this year increased 36.3 per cent over a year ago to 770 billion yen (\$5.42 billion), according to Finance Ministry statistics.

Mazda profits jump

TOKYO, Nov 20, (UPI): Mazda Motor Corp. has reported increased sales and profits for the half year ended Sept 30 but Honda and Suzuki posted decreased profits on increased sales due mainly to sluggish exports.

Mazda, Japanese affiliate of Chrysler Corp. of the United States, said net income increased 20.0 per cent over a year ago to \$72.1 million on sales of \$7.182 billion, up 6.9 per cent.

The Hiroshima-based company said the domestic demand remained generally firm but exports declined because of expanded local production.

The company said domestic sales squared 22.0 per cent to 261,294 units, valued at \$2.94 billion, while exports decreased 3.4 per cent to 393,081 units, worth \$4.242 billion.

Honda Motor Co. said its net income fell 12.5 per cent to \$163 million on sales of \$9.436 billion, up 2.8 per cent.

The Tokyo-based company said exports totalled \$5.858 billion, accounting for 62.1 per cent of the total sales.

"Although revenue from export increased owing to favourable expansion of overseas production, motorcycle revenue dropped 6.7 per cent to \$939 million due mainly to sluggish sales in Japan," the company said.

Revenue from automobile exports rose 2.8 per cent to \$7.111 billion, it said.

Banking							Stock							Exchange													
prices (Rs) Nov 20							Pr. Close							Open							Close						
ACC							292							295							297						
Alam Chem							—							—							—						
Alw Nis							—							—							—						
Azi Fab							—							—							—						
Ashok Ley							90							88							89.50						
Asia Paint							207.50							201.25							202.50						
Atlas Cop							44							44							46						
Auto Corp							70							68							70						
Nat Index							385.81							380							383						
Bajaj Auto							327.50							323.75							325						
Bar Rayon							707.50							710							712.50						
Blow Plast							—							—							—						
Bom Dye							137							144							142.50						
BK Bond							107.50							106							111						
Burr Wel							92.50							90							93						
Cashmere							—							—							—						
Cem Enka							3325							3250							3350						
Index for 10/11							—							—							—						
Cen Spg							2525							2540							2545						
Colgate							191.25							190							188.75						
Crompt Gr							13							11							12						
DCM							27							26.50							26.75						
Deep Fert							105							105							105						
Emilop							70							66							68						
El Holes							66							61.50							64						
Escorts							77.50							76							76						
BSE index							720.25							720.00							720.00						
Esakayef							116.25							113.75							115						
Esaraj							23.15							23							23						
Food Spt							105							102.50							103.75						
Forbes							50							47.50							48.75						
Gar Poly							54							5							52						
GL India							102							101							101						
GNFC							32.25							32.50							34.50						
Graham							109							105							108						
Index for 10/11							—							—							—						
GSEF							45.85							45.75							47.25						
GS Ind							175							175							175.50						
Gui Alki							74.25							72.50							73.25						
Gui Heavy							10.50							10							11						
Hero Honda							18							17							17						
Hind. India							90							89							90						
Hind. Lever							102.50							103							103.50						
Hind. Cocoa							143.75							141.25							146						
Hind Motor							26							24.50							24						
Hindalco							262.50							253.75							257.50						
Hosdal							1400							1400							1420						
Ingersoll							215							188							200						
ITC							69							63							65.50						
Ind Org							47.50							47							45						
JK Synth							192.50							192.50							195						
Indrol							62.50							60							61.25						
Kin Engg							125							127.50							125						
Kir Camm							69.50							68.75							67.50						
KSP Pumps							197.50							191.25							193.50						
Laxmi							77							75							81						
Mahindra							103							102.50							102.50						
Mas Share							16							15.85							16.25						
Mico							730							710							740						
Milkfood							200							195							200						
Mol							75							75							75						
Lipton							94							96.50							96.50						
Mac Russel							167.50							157.50							162.50						
Mat Coats							103							99							101						
MRF Ltd							337.50							332.50							337.50						
Mun Ind							139							139							141						
Nocl							1250							1250							1280						
Nat Org							—							—							—						
Nippon							47							47							48						
Orkay							15.75							15.20							15.50						
Paco							63							64							62.50						
Feico							21							20							21						
Pfizer							73							71.50							71						
Ponds							182.50							180							178.75						
Prem Auto							91							90							61						
Rabray							65							65							92.50						
Ray Wood							67.50							68							71						
Reckitt							190							187.50							198						
Resinone							78.50							80							80.50						
Sasa Gao							56							56.25							56						
Shaw Wall							—							—							—						
Shree Cem							—							—							—						
Shri Fib							55							52							54						
Siemens							74							71							72						
SKF							1300							1270							1320						
Sri Siro							46							49.50							52.25						
Sulco							505							485							500						
St Mills							71.25							70							66.25						
Tata Oil							116							115.50							115.50						
Tata Chem							372.50							370							365						
Tat Pow							103.5							103.5							1020						
Thapp Agro							112.25							109.25							110.75						
Tisco							155							155							156.25						
Vam Org							22.50							21.50							21.25						
Volras							905							905							910						
Wimco							22.25							22.25							22						
Zmith							54							52							54						
Zuari Agro							74							73							69						
Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.																											

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cent to 57.1%

ARAB TIMES GRAND

BINGO

COMPETITION NO. 74

PRIZES

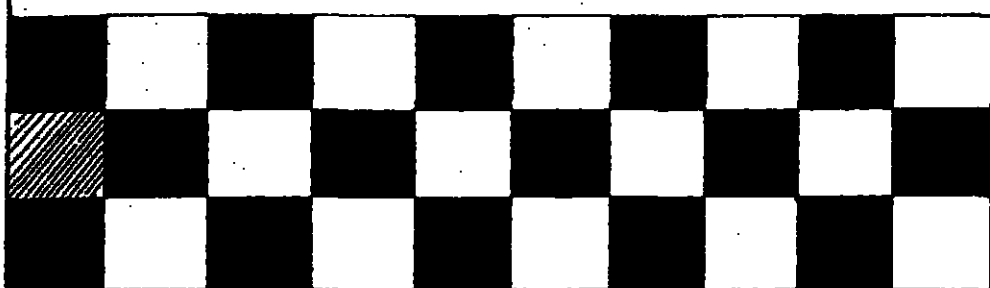
First Full House: KD 100
Second Full House: KD 60
Third Full House: KD 40
Top Line: KD 25
Four Corners: KD 25

Hurry! make sure you get your Arab Times

HOW TO PLAY

1. Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
2. Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in boldprint or ink.
3. Fill in your name and address in the
- appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.
4. Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
5. Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
6. Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

FREE BINGO No. 74 ENTRY



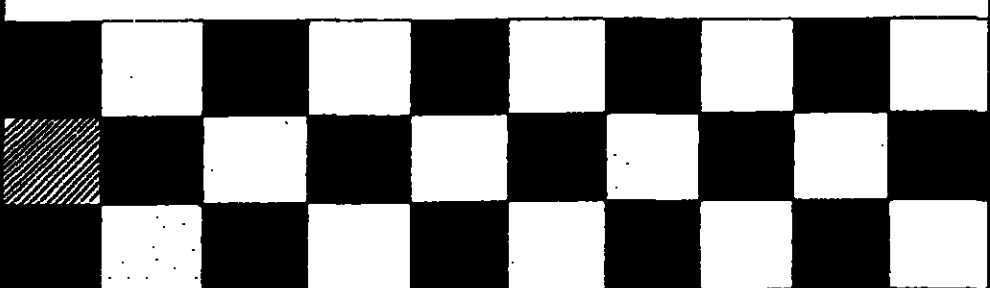
ANSWER THIS CLUE IN THE SHADED SQUARE:
TWO LITTLE DUCKS

NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss)

ADDRESS

IS YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE?

FREE BINGO No. 74 COPY



How to claim

EVERYDAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

Please make a note of the last number you checked off, i.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:
Bingo,
Arab Times,
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

Exploring the heavens in '90s

Human journey to Mars will highlight efforts

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, (AP) Preparations for human journeys to Mars will highlight US and Soviet space efforts in the 1990s, with Americans hoping to use a new space station to get there and the Soviets relying on their own orbiting outpost.

And as the new decade begins, the space programmes of the European Space Agency, Japan and China will expand as they embark on their own manned space efforts.

US scientists also expect to reap a rich harvest during the 1990s with an armada of sophisticated unmanned spacecraft that will explore the planets and peer back into the beginning of time.

At the same time, the Soviets will continue development of a space shuttle and exploit the space station Mir as they pursue their goal of dispatching cosmonauts to Mars early in the 21st century.

In July, on the 20th anniversary of man's first landing on the moon, US President George Bush declared, "we must commit ourselves anew to a sustained programme of manned exploration of the solar system, and, yes, the permanent settlement of space."

He proposed "a long-term, continuing commitment" to completion of space station Freedom in the 1990s and to a permanent base on the moon and a manned mission to Mars early in the next century.

But Bush provided no firm timetable or budgets. He is expected to offer a more detailed plan in his State of the Union address early next year.

Freedom is the key element in the exploration plan, since it would serve as a training base and launchpad for the more ambitious flights to the moon and Mars.

But the space station has had a troubled history. The original plan called for astronauts aboard space shuttles to begin assembling it in orbit in 1992, with a total of 20 shuttle flights needed to have it fully operational by 1995.

Cost overruns, budget cuts and the US space agency's poor job of selling the station to a sceptical Congress have delayed the project, and initial assembly now is scheduled to start in 1995 or 1996.

The US cost will be about \$25 billion, with European, Japanese



Countdown to spy mission

The countdown began Sunday for a midweek launch of the space shuttle Discovery on a mission to deploy a secret spy satellite that will listen in on diplomatic and military communications in the Soviet Union and other countries. The Discovery commander Frederick Gregory, (right) waves after

the crew arrived at Kennedy Space Centre for Department of Defence mission to be launched on Wednesday. Others from left are Kathryn Thornton, mission specialist Story Musgrave, pilot John Blaha and specialist Manley Carter. (Reuters wirephoto)

and Canadian partners contributing modules and other station facilities worth an additional \$8 billion. This will give astronaut-researchers of these nations access to the station and provide them with experience for developing independent manned space programmes.

Orbiting 250 miles (400 kilometres) up, the station would provide living and working quarters for as many as eight people, with astronauts rotating back to earth after four to six months. Some would stay longer to gain long-term exposure to weightless living, in preparation for a Mars flight that might take as long as 18 months.

As a scientific base, the station will allow humans to study the stars and planets from the pollution-free environment of space. The weightless world will permit the processing of new, pure medicines, metals and other products that cannot be made in earth's gravity. And astronauts aboard Freedom would assemble, service and repair satellites and send them out to explore

"We are embarking on a golden age of space science," said Leonard Fisk, the agency's associate administrator for space science and applications. "What's coming up is an era of unprecedented excitement and activity."

Among the US space events scheduled in the 1990s: — Magellan, launched from a space shuttle last May, is to orbit Venus next August and will study that planet for several years.

— Galileo, launched from a shuttle in October, is to orbit Jupiter in 1995 and fire a probe into its atmosphere. En route, Galileo will probe Venus and take the first closeup look at an asteroid.

— COBE (Cosmic Background Explorer), set for launch today, will spend years studying how stars and galaxies were formed by analyzing cosmic background radiation consisting of particles of light, or photons, permeating the universe.

— Rosat, a co-operative mission with West Germany, will launch next year to send back a detailed survey of X-rays emitted into the universe by violent explosions, such as those occur-

ing at the end of a star's life. — Hubble space telescope, to be launched from a shuttle next March, will enable astronomers to observe stars and galaxies so far away that they will be viewing these remote bodies as they existed 14 billion years ago, near the time scientists believe the universe was formed. At the heart of the telescope is a 94.5-inch (240 centimetre) primary optical mirror, the most precise ever made.

Orbiting 370 miles (595 kilometres) high, the 25,500-pound (11,550-kilogramme) telescope will look seven times more deeply into space, detect objects 50 times fainter and view them with 10 times greater clarity than the best ground-based observatory, thus expanding the universe visible to humans by 350 times.

During the 1990s, the US space agency also will continue research, with the Defence Department, on developing the national aerospace plane, which would take off from a runway like a jet plane and accelerate into orbit.

Shadow of its heyday, says book

UPI: victim of mismanagement

WASHINGTON, Nov 20, (AP) Two former staff members say in a book that United Press International has ceased to exist as a competitive news agency, a victim of a succession of misguided managements and of changes in the industry.

"There was no single reason for UPI's plunge from robust competitor to cowering dwarf," says authors Gregory Gordon and Ronald E. Cohen in "Down to the Wire," their account of the difficulties of the 82-year-old agency, once a feisty underdog competitor to the bigger, older Associated Press.

"But if the wire service indeed had any chances against these outside forces," the authors write, "they were squandered repeatedly by owners and managers either inept, ill-suited or unwilling to rise to the challenge."

Gordon, a former UPI investigative

reporter, was fired in May when he refused to submit his manuscript to his employer for review. He is now with the Detroit News. Cohen, former UPI managing editor, was fired in 1986 during a reorganization and is now executive editor of the Gannett News Service.

UPI, currently owned by Infotek-nology, Inc., parent firm to a number of high-tech ventures, continues to cover the news and sell its report to media subscribers. Its current management disputes the authors' depiction of UPI as reduced to a "gaunt shadow of its heyday."

Spokesman Milt Capps said, "UPI is in the fullest sense a competitor in the industry." He added that the authors "chose to mark their own departures from UPI as the point at which UPI ceased to exist as a news agency. Nothing could be further from the truth."

He said UPI has a staff of "nearly 800 reporters and editors and more than 4,000 other correspondents around the world," has more than 3,000 clients, expects to make "a modest profit" in the fourth quarter of 1989 and in 1990.

Capps said UPI draws four per cent of its revenues from government and corporate clients and projects that non-media clients will contribute 20 to 25 per cent of its business base within five years.

"The turnaround has been dramatic," he said.

IN "Down to the Wire," Gordon and Cohen portray the company as mortally wounded from internal battles and no longer a major player in the news industry.

They estimate that the company lost \$135 million in the last 25 years in attempts, under four ownerships, to regain solvency.

Boyish-looking anchorman wows viewers

Pioneering, opinionated TV show looks at daily Japanese life

TOKYO, (AP) For 20 million Japanese, Hiroshi Kume is an anchor in the stormy seas of modern life.

The 45-year-old, boyish-looking performer anchors one of the nation's most popular news shows, drawing viewers with his pioneering, opinionated 80-minute look at the day's events.

With the irreverent style of a quiz show host — Kume's former occupation — he revolutionized Japanese TV news and set off the so-called "news wars," pitting competing networks against each other with imitations of his style.

Critics complain that he doesn't have the experience of a real journalist. But Kume believes his move to news from cooking and quiz shows has an impact on the public.

"They think 'if this light-hearted-type person can talk about politics, maybe I can, too'."

TV Asahi, like Japan's five other national networks, offers a straight news show in the early evening. But four years ago, it brought Kume on from competitor Tokyo Broadcasting System, where he hosted quiz shows, cooking programme and musicals, and forged a new format — called "news station" — incorporating Kume's views of the news.

Kume wears pullover sweaters, waves his hands, grimaces, lurches forward into

the camera, and points to scale models of volcanoes or train sets to illustrate the day's major events.

On a typical show, one issue warrants a 15-minute examination in the style of a TV magazine show. Other stories are reported by Kume, by two conventional co-anchors who act as his "straight men," or TV Asahi reporters on the scene. Then, Kume reacts.

During recent coverage of the San Francisco earthquake, Kume pointed out that a similar quake in Tokyo — the centre of business, banking, government and culture — could seriously damage the economy. He strongly urged Japanese leaders to move many government offices and company branches out of the capital.

Kume's reporters also took their microphones to New York City and quizzed Americans about the recent agreement by Mitsubishi Estate, the Japanese real estate giant, to purchase a majority stake in the prestigious Rockefeller Group. Kume's reaction was surprise at what he saw as a low-key American attitude toward the purchase, and the lack of anti-Japanese sentiment.

Kume also has spent much of the past year focusing on the governing Liberal Democratic Party, which has been dogged by influence-peddling and sex scandals.

"I feel my mission is to check the activities of the government and the

Liberal Democratic Party, and I would even criticize the socialists if they gained power in the government," Kume told the Associated Press.

"I'm criticized for this, but I believe this is my mission and will continue doing it. It's part of what free speech is all about," he said.

"Japanese people are not a very political people," he added. "You get five French people together and they will talk politics, but Japanese never would. But I think they should."

In a culture that usually leans more to co-operation than criticism, Kume has become a working man's hero for many. Admirers claim he has the "common man's touch," fearlessly criticizing the powers that be in a Japan wracked by government scandals and international criticism.

Kume, however, hardly sees himself among the loyal, middle-class "salary men" who glue this country together. He points out that anyone who earns a TV anchor's salary — about 100 million yen (\$700,000) annually, TV insiders say — cannot be considered one of the trampled masses.

Television critics Sadanobu Aoki says Kume's support comes from viewers who applaud the unprecedented way he speaks out.

"He criticizes authority without hesitating, but he also balances his criticism. People like to think they see a little of themselves on the screen when they watch him," said Aoki, the author of books and magazine articles on television.

For many, Kume is an independent voice, the kind silenced in pre-war Japan by fealty to the emperor and muted after the war by subservience to Japan Inc.

At the same time, broadcasters are convinced that fact has a greater impact than fiction, and that TV viewers are looking at news shows as a form of entertainment.

Kume points to his ratings — a 20 per cent share — when confronted with claims he doesn't measure up to the staid, detached delivery of other news presenters. And Kume's outspoken programme has encouraged a cavalcade of imitations in the same 10 pm. time slot.

Kume admits to being worried by the only copycat show that has survived. The encroaching ratings of public broadcaster NHK's "news today" makes him think he should run a tighter ship, and "move from a news show to real news."

"I think maybe I'll tell fewer jokes," he says, smiling.

Kume has remarked to Japanese interviewers that he learns less from seeing other newscasters than from watching Beat Takeshi, a popular TV comedian.

Love for suntan proving costly

CANBERRA, (Reuters) Australians are paying a high price for their suntanned, sports-loving image. They have the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world.

Of those who have spent all their lives in Australia, two out of three will develop some form of skin cancer by the time they are 70, cancer experts say.

But summer is coming and, undaunted by the statistics and a world-wide thinning of the earth's sun-filtering ozone layer, Australians are again stripping off and heading for the beach.

The rush for the outdoors is especially heavy because the majority of Australia's 17 million people are of European descent — and many want that tanned, blue-eyed blonde look.

"The trouble is most of us are white, which is exactly the wrong colour for living here," said Anna Voloschenko, director of education for the state of Queensland's cancer fund.

Aborigines, here for 40,000 years before whites arrived 200 years ago, rarely get skin cancer, she said.

Asian immigrants are also low on the register of skin cancer sufferers because they are more aware of the effects of sun, have different ideas about fashionable skin colour and stay inside during critical times such as mid-day.

Voloschenko has a tough job in Queensland, which is promoted by the authorities as the "Sunshine State," a Pacific coast tropical centre for sun-worshippers.

"We have a lot of success showing younger children how to cover up from the sun. The problem starts when they get to high school age. A tan has sex appeal," she said.

Skin cancer is also high in South Africa among descendants of Europeans living in the sunny climate.

Australia has the world's highest per capita incidence of skin cancer, with about 145,000 cases reported in 1988 and costing the government 100 million Australian dollars (\$78 million) in treatment and diagnosis.

The incidence of malignant melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, in Australia is nearly double that of New Zealand, three times higher than Norway, four times that of Sweden and 12 times the rate in Britain.

The latest statistics show 1,027 Australians died from skin cancer in 1987, up from 897 in 1986 and 835 in 1985.

The biggest killer was malignant melanoma, with cases doubling in the past 10 years, health authorities say.

Scientists say it is too early to forecast how the depletion of the ozone layer, which causes out some harmful sun rays, will raise the level of skin cancer in Australia.

But Dr Robin Marks, a director of the Anti-Cancer Council of the State of Victoria, says increased ultraviolet radiation has serious implications for the sun-soaked country.

He warned recently that a one per cent decrease in the ozone layer would lead to a two per cent increase in ultra-violet radiation and a huge increase in skin cancer.

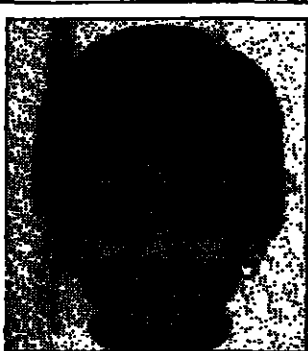
Marks urges people to use skin creams that totally block harmful rays and to follow the rule "between 11 and three, slip under a tree."

He says there is considerable evidence that exposure to sunlight during childhood and adolescence helps lead to the high rates of melanoma and other skin cancers seen later in adults.

Australian immigrants who spent their first 20 years or so in Europe without heavy exposure to sun are less likely to contract skin cancer.

Since 1985, Australian health authorities have promoted awareness of national skin cancer awareness week. Their theme this year: "Fry now, pay later."

Happy birthday



Madiya Shoukat celebrated her 6th birthday on November 14. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Madiya goes to the Kuwait Indian School and likes watching television.



Naaz Abdulkader Parkar celebrates her birthday on November 22. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Naaz goes to the New Indian School and likes writing and cartoons.



Happy birthday to William Strath of the English School Surra who celebrates his 40th birthday on November 22. Belated greetings from friends. William wishes to become a headmaster.



Jeffrey D. Sardina celebrated his first birthday on Nov 20. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Jeffrey has not yet started school and likes kissing everybody.



Lancy D'Souza celebrated her first birthday on November 15. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Aman Deep celebrates her 4th birthday on November 22. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Aman likes to play and watch cartoons and drawing.

First and last

The last time rum was issued to men in the Royal Navy was in 1970.

The first Field Marshal, the highest rank in the British Army, was John, Duke of Argyll, who was given the position in 1736.

Muhammad Ali was the first man in the history of boxing to regain the world heavyweight title thrice.

Marie Curie was the first great female scientist: she discovered radium and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics.

The process of silver plating was first used by Thomas Bolsover in Sheffield in 1742.

On 16th of June, 1963, Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space.

Australia's 'Flying Doctor' service went into operation for the first time in 1928.

America's first railways was the South Carolina Railroad, opened in 1830.

Buckingham Palace, the home of the Royal Family, was first built for the Duke of Buckingham in 1703.

The Scottish missionary and explorer, David Livingstone, was the first European to discover the Victoria Falls, the highest in Africa.

The first pendulum clock as developed in the seventeenth century, before this all clocks told only an approximate time.

The first Eddystone lighthouse (which is to the south of Plymouth) was built in 1698 entirely of wood. It was destroyed by a storm four years later.

Three American balloonists became the first men to make a successful crossing of the Atlantic in 1978.

The last petrol rationing in Britain was abolished in 1950.

The last Crusade to rid Jerusalem of the 'infidels,' or non-Christians, was led by Prince Edward of England in 1271.

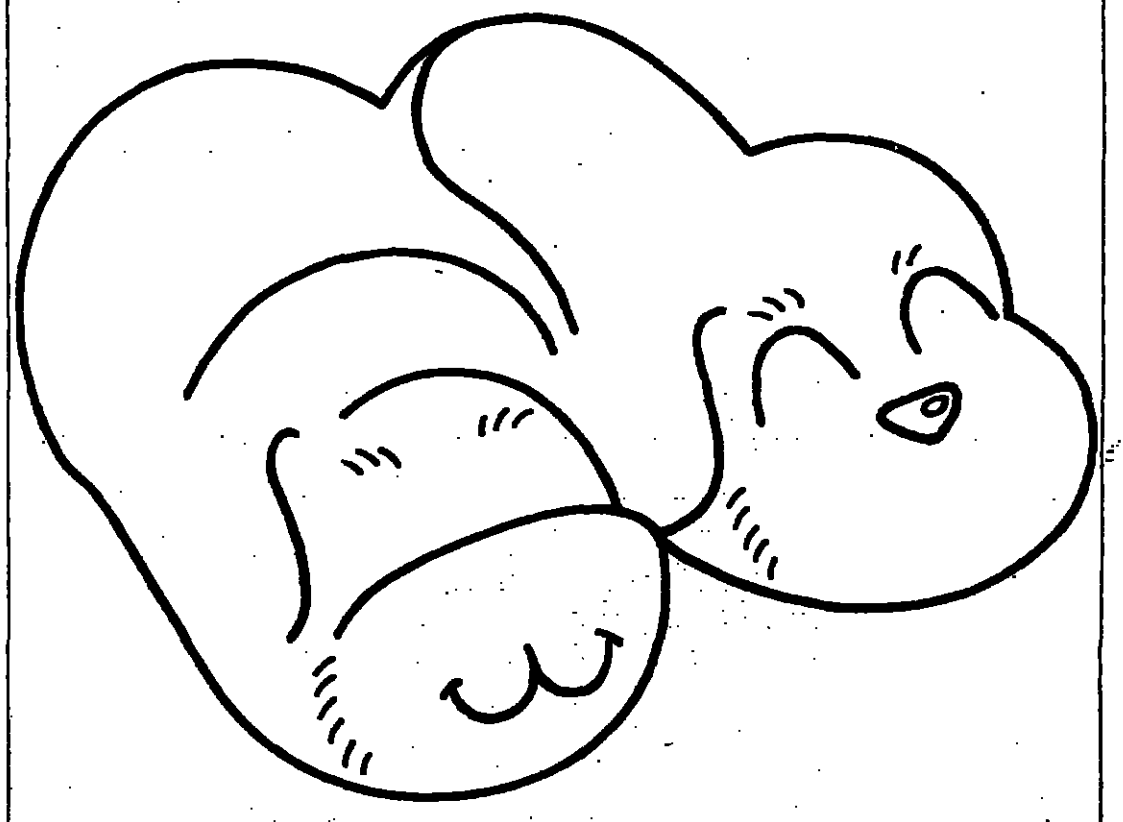
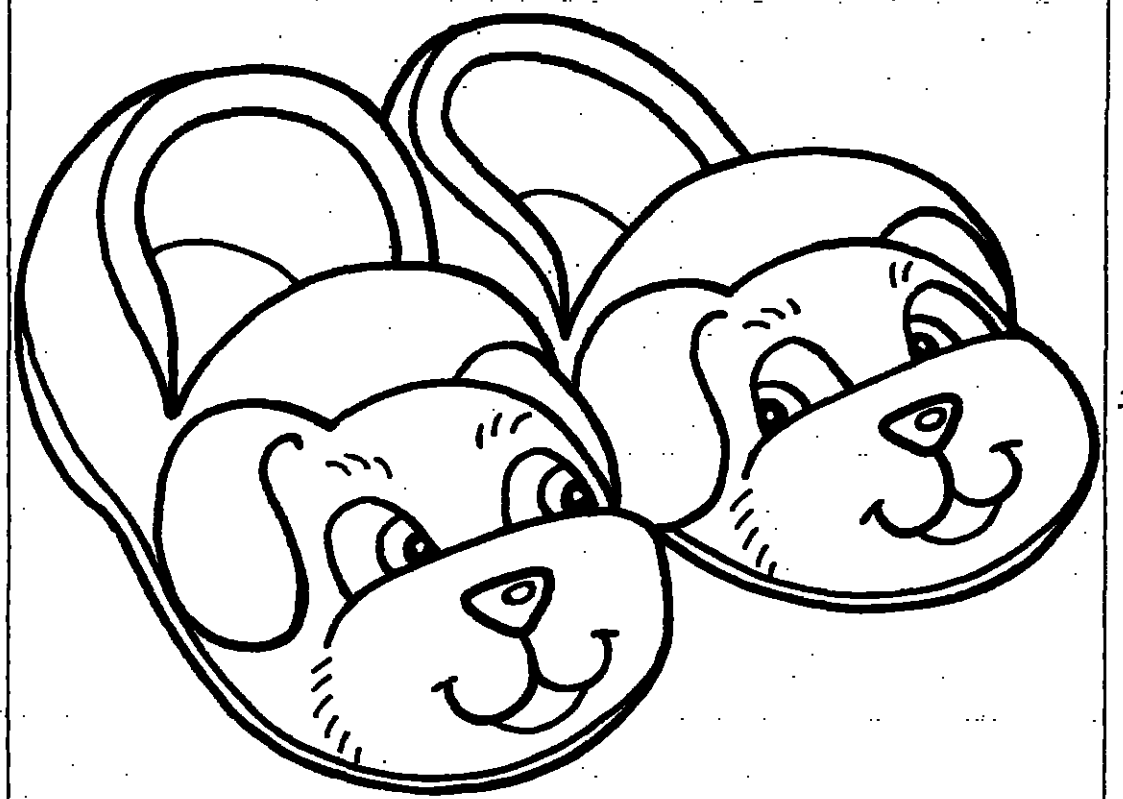
The first expedition to climb Everest set out in 1921. It and many other expeditions failed, until Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing succeeded in 1953.

When the Russian chemist, Dmitri Mendeleev, first drew up his Periodic Table of Elements, listing all the gases, metals, minerals and liquids known to science, there were 65 entries. In the last hundred years the number has risen to 107.

The Great Pyramid of Cheops was the first major building that is still around today. It remained the tallest building in the world for over thirty centuries before being topped by the mediaeval cathedrals built in Europe.

The first tennis player ever to achieve the grand slam twice was Rod Laver of Australia, who won the men's singles title at Wimbledon, the American, Australian and French championships in both 1962 and 1969.

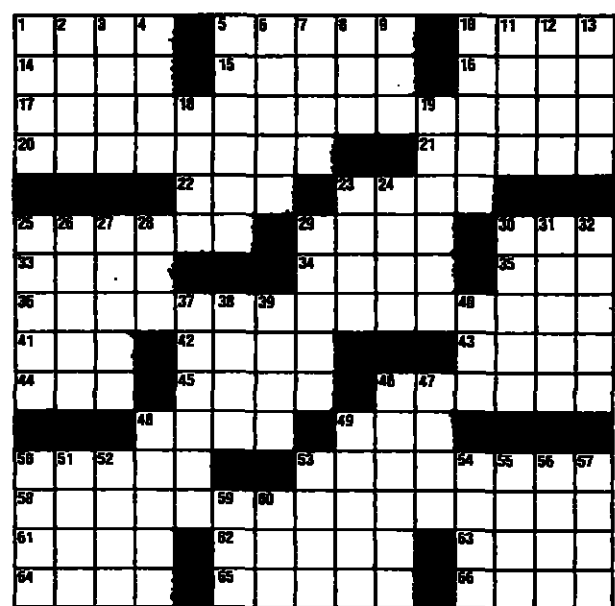
Draw and colour



1. Put a small house between the two trees.
2. Colour the right tree green. 3. Put a bird on the left tree.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Youths
 - 5 Denude
 - 10 Places
 - 14 Composer
 - 15 Long-armed ape, for short
 - 16 Dash
 - 17 Verdi opera
 - 20 Palpable
 - 21 Steps to a graduate degree
 - 22 Md. neighbor
 - 23 Mares' morsels
 - 25 Emulated
 - 29 Montana
 - 29 Striva's wife
 - 30 Fledermaus
 - 33 Inclined
 - 34 Current Comb. form
 - 35 Hoovay for the matador!
 - 36 Strauss opera
 - 41 Seurat stroke
 - 42 Calif. campus
 - 43 Bump mark
 - 44 "— day at a time"
 - 45 Long-loved Lucille
 - 46 Plant organs
 - 48 Namesakes of a Gilbert & Sullivan princess
 - 49 The sun
 - 50 Vast plain of NE Nigeria
 - 53 Artistic —
 - 58 Bernstein opera
 - 61 UN member
 - 62 Knight's weapon
 - 63 Single thing
 - 64 One of the Inner Hebrides
 - 65 Engender
 - 66 Aromatic spice
- DOWN**
- 1 Cobbler's block
 - 2 "Tosca" tune
 - 3 Rhetoric's last word
 - 4 Blend of smoke and fog
 - 5 Cried
 - 6 Scandinavian folkloric figure
 - 7 Sprint
 - 8 Bus. abbr.
 - 9 Links org.
 - 10 Sly looks
 - 11 "Eugene Onegin" role
 - 12 Reiner or Bernstein
 - 13 Actress Claire and namesakes
 - 18 Brood of pheasants
 - 19 Idea
 - 23 Island of leis
 - 24 Hebrew letter
 - 25 Madrid museum
 - 28 Composer
 - 29 Copland
 - 27 Strike
 - 28 Watering spot
 - 29 African village
 - 30 Canine breed
 - 31 Unescorted
 - 32 Trials
 - 37 "Rub-a—"
 - 38 Sports org.
 - 39 Building wings
 - 40 Fuss
 - 46 Classified
 - 47 Accused's answer
 - 48 Harden
 - 49 Ago
 - 50 Heat measures: Abbr.
 - 51 City on the Ural
 - 52 Optimistic
 - 53 Banquet
 - 54 Buddy
 - 55 Singer
 - 56 Auricular
 - 57 Ceremony
 - 59 Deg.
 - 60 Jug lug

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BITIS CHUG APPLE
OTIC HOPE SLEET
SANA IRAN TOAST
GLAMSCASINO CEE
PIK EARTH
CAGINESS PIEMAN
ORR SNOUT ARENA
RUES ANGEL MLVL
ABELE GALES BILL
LAKING REVIVALS
SMAISH EPI
ABA CAESARSALAD
FILET NOLA NOOR
ATALE CRAIG DONE
REDID EASE STEW

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
RISING FROM THE DEAD

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A 9 8 2
 ♥ A 6 5
 ♦ 8 3
 ♣ K Q J 4

EAST
 ♠ Void
 ♥ J 10 9 7 2
 ♦ 9 7 6 5 4
 ♣ 10 8 7

SOUTH
 ♠ K 10 7 6 4
 ♥ K Q 8
 ♦ A K 2
 ♣ A 2

The bidding:
 South: 1♠ West: 3♠ North: 3♠ East: 3♠
 6♣ Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Queen of ♦

Declarer did well to recover from a bad trump break on this hand from a rubber bridge game in Florida. But all that work would have been unnecessary had declarer taken a basic precaution in the first place. This was a typical rubber-bridge power auction. It had the virtues of simplicity, speed and accuracy. North's jump raise was forcing, but had his hand included the queen of trumps rather than the queen of

clubs, a grand slam would have been an excellent contract.

Declarer won the diamond opening in hand and led a trump to the ace. When East showed out, declarer faced an uphill battle to avoid two trump losers. Fortunately, he guessed the distribution.

The remaining high diamond was cashed, followed by a diamond ruff with the deuce. Three rounds of clubs were taken, declarer discarding a heart from hand, followed by two rounds of hearts ending in dummy as West followed helplessly. Now declarer divined to ruff a club, then exit with a low trump. West had to win and lead away from his remaining trump honor into declarer's tenace, enabling South to score the last two tricks.

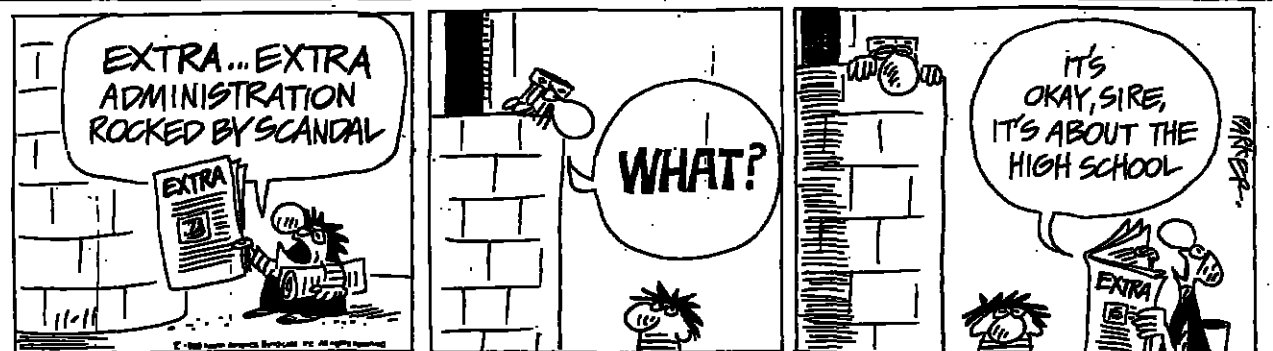
The easy way to make the contract came at the second trick. Since declarer was solid in the side suits, the only possible problem was to avoid losing two trump tricks. So at trick two declarer should have led a low trump and simply covered any card West produces. If East can win the trick, it means that trumps are no worse than 3-1. Thereafter, the ace-king will draw the outstanding fangs and the contract is home for the loss of only a trump trick.



"D'you wanna speak to the boss or to someone who knows what she's talking about?"

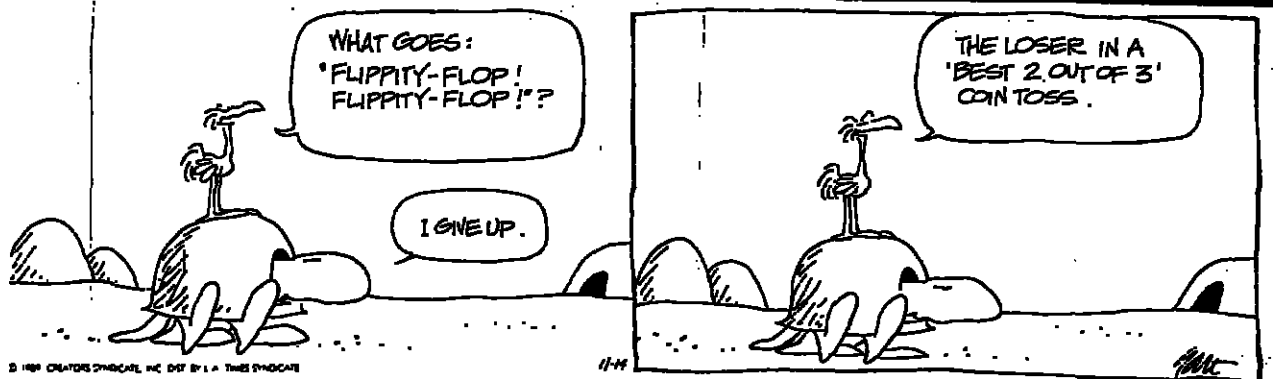
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You must keep your objectives precisely in mind. If you ask for too much you will be disappointed. You should not lose interest in something on which you are embarked. Be resilient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

There will be some uncertainties this morning but later you will see things more clearly. Your private life will run more smoothly. You will have some food for thought. Be less obstinate.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Make sure you do not overture yourself. You should not persist in doing something you know not to be quite right. Do not do anything that your partner would not agree with. Be less belligerent.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be able to make up for lost time. You should not be quite so suspicious. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be less solemn.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Today you will be able to press on full steam ahead. You will be able to proceed with something that is important to you. There is no need to feel dejected, instead you should look on the bright side.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will find yourself being able to get a move on. You should not think that love grows on trees. There is no time to lose. Be resourceful.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

Make sure you get enough gentle exercise. Do not just leave things to chance. Make sure you have your facts right. Be less quarrelsome.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will be able to make good progress today. Avoid getting into an argument. Do not do anything that would aggravate your partner. Be tactful.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have a lot to do so do not dither. Others will not always see eye to eye with you. Avoid trying to do things by force. Be resolute.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will have a good opportunity but you are liable to miss it. You should watch out for mistakes both yours and those made by others. More speed could well mean less haste today. Be flexible.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

The situation is strange and you must be on the lookout for traps. Make sure you do not drive too fast and consult your mirror frequently.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

The Moon's influence will tend to make you more aggressive and moody. You should not try to evade the issue. Now is the right time to make a few changes. Be considerate.

Story sense

Another precaution you ought to take is to avoid sudden changes of weather. When you wake up

Manat

DECORATING

PLANTS
POSTERS
RESET
RUGS
SEW
SLIPCOVER
STAND
TASSELS
THEME
TIE
TILES
TREE
WALLPAPER

D H L L M L A I R E T A M
X R S L I P C O V E R W T
X W A D D F G G S E E U I
D A A P O S T E R S M M M
S L O O E R R T S T I E O
E L L F K S D S L N M M T
R P X S R B E I E A I K I
U A X E X U L L S L R H F
T P X L Q D G X S P O U Y
C E E I O G S S A D L O F
I R T T R E E W T L O U U
P N F G H T E P R A C N M
A L S T A N D X E M E H T

How many triangles can you see?

By Julie Hodgeson


"Help me," she pleaded." I slipped when I was walking my dog," she explained. The woman was very frightened and she began to cry. The gang split up into sets of twos (there were 8 in the gang) and set of to find help, two of them stayed behind, to talk to the woman and to help her relax, the ledge was narrow, but it did not look safe, so a quick rescue was a must. Two boys went that stayed behind to help down an apple to the lady, just in case she was hungry. Ten minutes had gone by, the lady asked if her dog was any where to be seen, neither of the boys has heard the dog, and feared that it had fallen into the sea beneath the

cliff. The boys did not tell their fears to the woman.

One of the boys searched around the area for the dog. Meanwhile the rest of the gang had gone to the police station and reported the incident to the inspector there. The police man got onto his radio immediately and contacted the coast guard.

It seemed an eternity before the two boys heard the helicopter coming. The rescue team, lowered a man down on the rope, who had a harness to strap to the woman, when the man got to the ledge, he checked if she had any broken bones, he only found a sprained ankle. As he was lifting her up the ledge began to crumble, with the weight of two bodies, he quickly strapped the harness around her waist. The cliff crumbled more now, large chunks of rock, fell crashing into the sea. The woman was deathly quiet, the man noticed she had fainted. The pilot started to bring up the rope, as soon as there feet were up in the air, the whole ledge crumbled away. The rescue team got her just in time. The boys cheered them as they lifted her to safety. The boys found her dog, and took it to the local hospital, where she was to stay for a few days. The woman said, that when her ankle was better, she would invite them for an icecream tea.

The robot



1. Robbie, the robot, is programmed to help around the house. He can be set to take 127 steps forward, 65 to the left, 65 to the right and 115 backwards. How many steps can Robbie be programmed to take? —
2. The robot has a magnetic hand that picks up things as he goes through the house. He picked up a box of 173 pins that were spilled and 49 paper clips. How many more pins did he pick up than paper clips? —
3. Gunther used the robot for 7 hours on Monday, 10 hours on Tuesday, 3 hours on Wednesday, 12 hours on Thursday and 9 hours on Friday. How many hours did he use it? —
4. The batteries to run Robbie cost £2.49 each. It takes 6 batteries. How much do batteries cost for Robbie? —
5. Robbie's eyes flash 5 times each minute. How many times do they flash in 1 hour? —
6. The robot needed some new parts. Gunther paid £2.49 for a battery, 75 for nuts and bolts, 65p for one light bulb for his eye, and £1.92 for oil. Gunther gave the clerk a twenty dollar bill. How much change did he get back? —

Women of the Jos Plateau, Nigeria, Africa, make known their married status by wearing a small bustle of plaited straw.

In Chaouen, in Northern Morocco you can see snow on trees and rooftops during the summer.

Before evolving his theory of relativity, Albert Einstein had worked as a clerk in a patents office.

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The paradise fish of Thailand builds its nest underwater, bringing air from the surface and saliva to create a nest of bubbles.

Fireflies are bright enough to shine through the stomach of a frog.

In 1949 the hair of the head of the Thuravadu-Thurai Monastery in India was 8 metres long.

Outside the United States, Australia has the largest number of NASA space tracking and communication establishments in the world.

Prime Minister of Britain, W.E. Gladstone, used to chew each mouthful of food thirty-two times.

A black and white line drawing of a griffin, a mythical creature with the head and wings of an eagle and the body and tail of a lion. It is standing on a small patch of ground with flowers.

'Doctor, doctor! if I take these green pills will I get better?'
'Well, nobody I've given them to has ever come back.'

'Doctor, doctor! I keep thinking I'm a fridge!'
'Shut your mouth — you're shining your light right in my eyes.'

'Doctor, doctor! I can't sleep!'
'Sleep on the edge of the bed. You'll soon drop off.'

'Doctor, doctor! I keep thinking I'm a ten pound note!'
'Well, go shopping. You need the change.'

**'Doctor, doctor! I keep thinking I'm a doorknob!'
'All right, all right! Don't fly off the handle...'**

'Doctor, doctor! I feel I like an old sweater!'
'Well, I'll be darned!'

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
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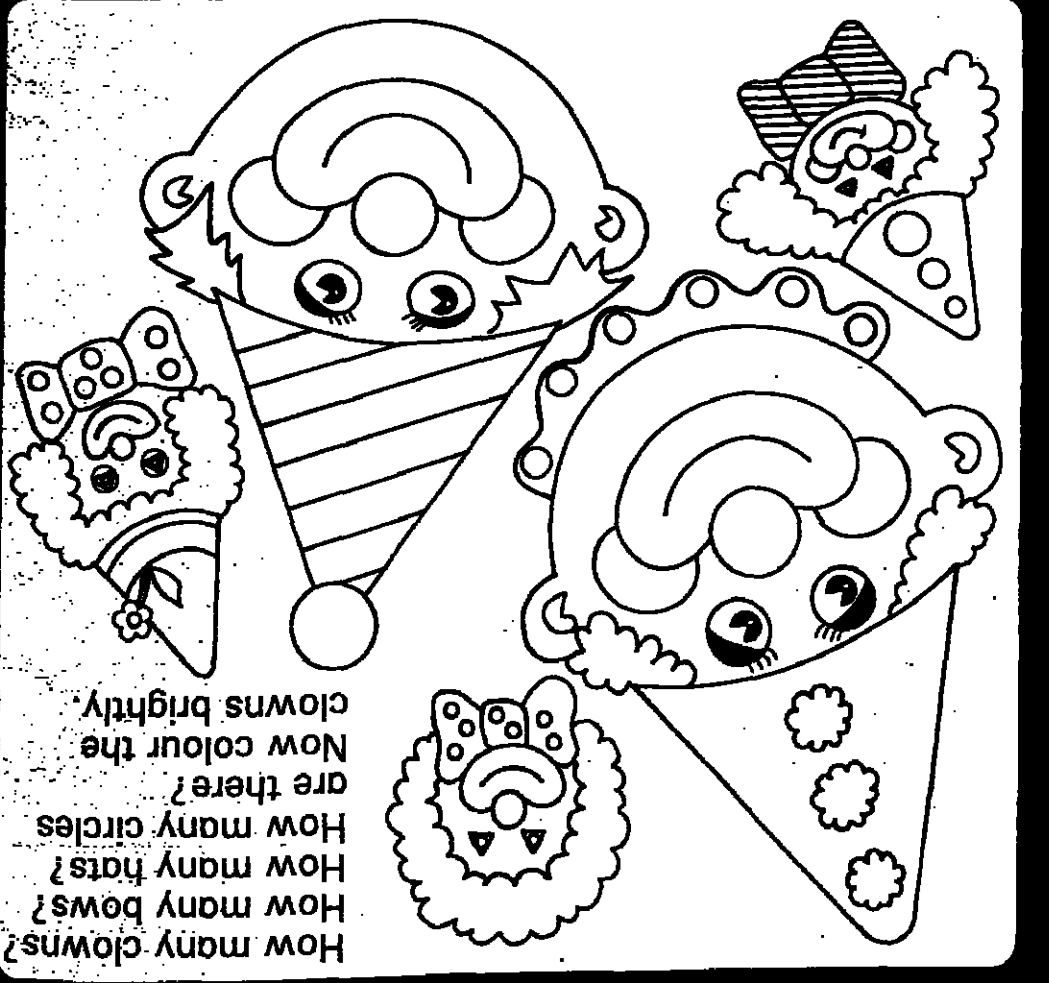
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We can make thirty-two, three and four-letter words out of the word FLOWERS. How many can you make? Try not to use people's names or plurals.

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Safeway Corner, Safeway Farwania

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

Chinese remain the best

NEW DELHI, Nov 20, (Reuters): China's athletes showed again at the eighth Asian Track and Field Championships that they are the dominant force in the region. When the championships closed yesterday, China had 22 of the 40 gold medals, one more than they achieved two years ago in Singapore. The next best, host nation India, had seven. No other country had more than three.

But although the Chinese team dominated, several of the outstanding individuals of the championships were Indians. "China has a superb training programme and they produce some really strong athletes, but for individual talent and flair I preferred the Indians," said Chi Cheng, Taiwan's former holder of world records at various sprint distances and now coach to her national squad.

Star of the Indian team and of the championships was undoubtedly P.T. Usha who ended with four gold and two silver medals. Also showing tremendous talent was Shiny Wilson who won gold in the women's 4x400 metre relay and silver in both the 400 and 800 metres.

For the Indian men, Bahadur Prasad was particularly impressive in winning the 1,500 metres and running intelligently to take the silver in the 5,000 metres.

Japan, once regarded as the second strongest power in Asian athletics, managed only three gold medals, but they had left many of their top performers at home in order to give experience to younger members of the squad.

Despite China's dominance, there were occasional surprises, none more so than a brilliant run by previously unknown Burmese Khin Khin Hywe in the women's 1,500 metres.

After Asian champion Feng Yanbo of China had seemingly taken control, dictating a slow-paced race from the front, Htwe suddenly kicked on the final back straight and with long, elegant strides stormed clear to win her country's only gold medal.

But while praising the athletes, Chi Cheng said it should be remembered they were still a long way from being world class. "They must travel more, they must have competition in the States and Europe if they are to develop fully," she said.

"Yet too many of them are afraid to travel, they are content just to win medals here in Asia instead of having the courage to compete against the world's best elsewhere."

"At first they may lose, but they will improve. And if they have real talent, in the end they will win."

Key player
VIENNA, Nov 20, (UPI): Rapid Vienna will be without key player Robert Pecl for next week's UEFA cup clash against Leige of Belgium, club officials said. The Austrian Football Association slapped a four match ban on Pecl for foul play in a League match against Austria Vienna earlier this month.

World No. 1 ends year on winning note

Graf overcomes Navratilova



Graf reaches for the ball during the final (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, Nov 20, (Reuters): Steffi Graf demonstrated once again why she is number one in the world by defeating second-ranked Martina Navratilova 6-4 7-5 2-6 6-2 to win the \$1 million Women's Tennis Championship yesterday.

The 20-year-old West German won the exciting two hour, 35 minute battle for her fourth consecutive victory over Navratilova, all in major tournament finals.

Before the top seeded Graf won her second year-end championship yesterday she had beaten the former world No. one at the 1989 US final and in the last two Wimbledon finals.

Graf's serve was strong and steady and her passing shots against the ever-attacking Navratilova were devastating. "The first two sets I served unbelievably well," said Graf, who earned \$125,000 for the victory and \$200,000 in year-end bonus pool money to bring her 1989 earnings to \$1,763,905.

Sunday's win was all the sweeter for Graf because her ability to play was in doubt after she severely twisted her left ankle in practice the week before the 16-player tournament began.

"I didn't expect to win the first match," admitted Graf, who said she was still in a lot of pain when she practiced before the final. "I just kept hanging in there," she said, proud of her achievement.

The match was filled with lost opportunities for Navratilova. In the fourth set alone the second seed was able to convert just one of 11 break point opportunities.

And far too many of Navratilova's volleys just caught the top of the net. At one point she let her frustration show when Graf easily returned a volley for a winner and Navratilova yelled to herself "put it away."

single service break in the third game. The West German's serve was the difference in the second set. "Steffi's getting a lot more free points on her serve than I do," said Navratilova. "That first serve is awesome."

Even so, Navratilova missed a golden opportunity to put the set back on serve when Graf was serving at 6-5. At break point Graf delivered an easy second serve and Navratilova sailed the return far beyond the baseline.

Navratilova then netted an approach volley and Graf delivered one of her nine aces to end the set.

In the third set Navratilova lifted her game several notches, perhaps feeding off the energy from the nearly 17,000 fans that did not want to see a straight-set match. She held at love with an ace in the first game and from 2-2 reeled off four straight games, breaking Graf in the sixth and eighth.

Rockets take Heat to task



Portland's Clyde Drexler (No. 22) takes to the air for a shot over Seattle's Nate McMillan. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, Nov 20, (AP): Sleepy Floyd, who didn't start for the first time this season after going scoreless in his previous game, had 23 points to go with Mitchell Wiggins' 26 as the Houston Rockets beat the Miami Heat 132-94.

The Heat, loser of four consecutive games, were led by reserve forward Billy Thompson with 21 points in yesterday's game.

With 7:39 left in the first quarter, Wiggins hit a 15-foot jump shot to give the Rockets the lead for good. Akem Olujuwon, Buck Johnson and Floyd scored eight points apiece as Houston built a 36-24 first-quarter lead.

Lakers 120, Bulls 115
Magic Johnson had 25 points, 14 assists and 10 rebounds and reserve centre Vlade Divac scored a career-high 17 points as Los Angeles won its seventh straight game. It was the fifth straight loss for the Bulls.

Divac keyed two rallies and got his points and six rebounds in just 17 minutes. After the Bulls closed to 105-100 with 6:42 remaining, Divac scored six straight points for a 111-100 lead with 5:50 to go. Divac's previous career high was 13 points against Indiana on Nov 15.

Jeff Malone and John Williams led the Bulls with 24 points each. Trail Blazers 119, Supersonics 109
Terry Porter and Jerome Kersey each scored eight points in the third period as Portland built a 24-point lead. Portland, ahead by 10 at the half, scored eight straight points to open the third period and take a comfortable lead.

Porter and Clyde Drexler each finished with 20 points. Cliff Robinson had 18 and Kersey had 16 points and 18 rebounds. Michael Cage and Dale Ellis each scored 17 for Seattle.

Standings
Standing of National Basketball Association teams after games played yesterday (tabular under won, lost, winning percentage, games back):

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	5	3	.625	—
Boston	4	4	.500	1
Philadelphia	4	4	.500	1
Washington	5	6	.455	1-1/2
New Jersey	3	5	.375	2
Miami	3	7	.300	3
Central Division				
Detroit	5	3	.667	—
Milwaukee	5	3	.625	1/2
Indiana	4	3	.571	1
Chicago	5	4	.556	1
Cleveland	4	4	.500	1-1/2
Atlanta	3	4	.429	2
Orlando	3	6	.333	3
Western Conference				
Midwest Division				
Utah	5	1	.833	—
Denver	5	4	.556	2
Houston	5	4	.555	2
Dallas	4	4	.500	2-1/2
San Antonio	4	4	.500	2-1/2
Charlotte	2	6	.250	4-1/2
Minnesota	2	7	.222	5
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	5	1	.889	—
Portland	5	3	.700	1-1/2
Phoenix	4	3	.571	2-1/2
Seattle	5	3	.500	2-1/2
Sacramento	3	4	.429	4
L.A. Clippers	3	4	.286	4-1/2
Golden State	2	7	.222	5-1/2

Strange and O'Meara cruise to victory

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif., Nov 20, (Reuters): Curtis Strange and Mark O'Meara coasted to an easy six-stroke victory in the \$1 million invitational team golf tournament yesterday.

In this three-day team event, with a different format each day, Strange and O'Meara went into yesterday's scramble with a six-stroke lead and were able to maintain it with a round of 10-under-par 62.

Tom Weiskopf and Lanny Wadkins tied for second place with Bernhard Langer of West Germany and John Mahaffey. Weiskopf-Wadkins had a 60 for a 20-under-par 169, while Langer-Mahaffey posted at 13-under-par 59.

"The low round of the day was posted by the team of Greg Norman-Jack Nicklaus. They had three eagles, nine birdies and one bogey for a 14-under-par 58. They tied with the team of Ray Floyd-Chip Beck for fourth place at 19-under-par 197."

In the scramble, both-players hit drivers and the best is selected as the spot from where they both hit second shots and so on until the hole is completed. Alternate shots was the format for the first round and a best-ball was played on Saturday.

Strange and O'Meara had 10 birdies and no bogeys. "We teamed awfully well," O'Meara said. Strange added, "We only made one mistake



O'Meara (right) and Strange seem pleased with their play. (Reuters wirephoto)

in three days and that's pretty good." In the scramble format — the first ever played by the tour professionals — O'Meara said the strategy was for him to hit first off the tee. "When I had it in play, that freed Curtis to do his things."

They each won \$125,000. The World Cup Team Golf Championship looks far from dead even though it failed to attract a truly class field and was badly hit by rain.

Jahangir thrashes Elopuro

STUTTGART, West Germany, Nov 20, (Reuters): Jahangir Khan, still smarting from the loss of his world squash title last month, needed just 27 minutes to beat Finland's Sami Elopuro in the first round of the Stuttgart Open Grand Prix tournament yesterday.

Jahangir, six times world champion, won 15-3 15-7 15-5, displaying much of the power and touch that have made him the best player of the last decade and arguably the greatest ever.

Having lost his world title to fellow Pakistani Jansher Khan in Kuala Lumpur, Jahangir showed Elopuro no mercy. The Finnish number one was totally outclassed in the first two games. He led briefly in the third but could do little in the closing stages except stand and admire as his top-seeded opponent cruised to a second round meeting with England's Phil Kenyon.

It was a different story for Jahangir's compatriot Mir Zaman Gul, ranked 10th in the world, who was unexpectedly beaten 17-15 17-16 12-15 15-11 by England's number three Paul Gregory.

Gregory is ranked only 30th in the world but was a worthy winner against eighth-seeded Mir

Kasparov leads

BELGRADE, Nov 20, (Reuters): World chess champion Gary Kasparov secured a lone lead in the fifth round of the Belgrade International Chess Tournament yesterday while Britain's Nigel Short suffered his first defeat of the tournament.

Kasparov defeated Yugoslav grand master Ljubomir Ljubojevic in a Sicilian defence after 37 moves. He has scored four points out of five games.

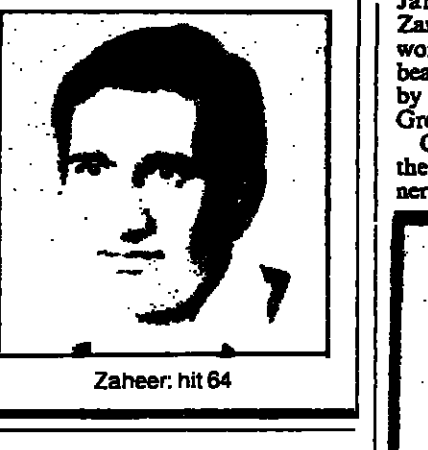
Kasparov played sharply and set up the game while Ljubojevic underestimated his opponent's counter-attack.

Meridien rout Lucky Star

MERIDIEN Cricket Club defeated Lucky Star by 62 runs in a League match played at EPI ground on Friday. Meridien batted first and scored 155 runs for the loss of five wickets. Zaheer was the top scorer with 64 runs with one six and three fours while Mirza hit 41 (retired).

For Lucky Star Mostafa and Nasser took two wickets each. Lucky Star never got on top of the Meridien bowlers, led by an accurate Liaqat Ali. Lucky Star tried to put up some resistance but were finally all out for only 93 runs in 21 overs.

For Meridien, Liaqat Ali bowled extremely well and the Lucky Star batsmen were in all sorts of trouble in facing him. Liaqat captured six wickets for only 12 runs. Dev and Mahmoud, the other bowlers took 2 wickets each.



Zaheer: hit 64

Lowery misses field goals, Chiefs tie Browns

NEW YORK, Nov 20, (AP): Nick Lowery missed three field goals in the final seconds yesterday as his Kansas City Chiefs settled for the first tie of the National Football League season, a 10-10 finish with Cleveland.

Lowery had begun the season as the second-most accurate kicker in history, but missed twice with four seconds left in regulation play and missed again with three seconds remaining in overtime.

"This is a tough stadium to kick in," Lowery complained of his performance at muddy Cleveland stadium. "The last kick in overtime was like trying

to kick out of a sand trap." Elsewhere, Donald Igwebuike came through on a 28-yard field goal as time expired, lifting Tampa Bay over Chicago 32-31 while Green Bay upset powerhouse San Francisco 21-17.

In other games, the New York Giants topped Seattle 15-3, Philadelphia beat Minnesota 10-9, Cincinnati routed Detroit 42-7, New England stopped Buffalo 33-24, Miami downed Dallas 17-14, New Orleans defeated Atlanta 26-17, Pittsburgh beat San Diego 20-17, the Los Angeles Rams roughed up Phoenix 37-14 and Houston defeated the Los Angeles Raiders 23-7.

Denver were playing Washington this evening. Packers 21, 49ers 17
Don Majkowski scooted eight yards on a quarterback draw for the go-ahead scored with 11:55 to play, his second touchdown run for Green Bay, which stopped a six-game winning streak by the 49ers, which are now 9-2.

Buccaneers 32, Bears 31
Tampa Bay beat Chicago twice in a season for the first time, rallying after Mike Tomczak's third touchdown pass in the final 4:27.

Giants 15, Seahawks 3
Phil Simms threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Howard Cross on the game's opening series as the New York Giants held Seattle in check.

Eagles 10, Vikings 9
Randall Cunningham's deflected pass turned into a 3-yard touchdown to Cris Carter with 2:32 remaining and Philadelphia won at home.

Rams 37, Cardinals 14
Jim Everett passed for 308 yards, including a pair of touchdown strikes to Henry Ellard, and Los Angeles routed Phoenix at home.

Bengals 42, Lions 7
Barney Bussey recovered a blocked punt in the end zone — the Bengals' first such touchdown in 11 years — to cap a 28-point second quarter. Host Cincinnati (6-5) won for just the second time in six games.

Dolphins 17, Cowboys 14
Dan Marino completed his second long pass for a touchdown this season and Miami went on to win in Dallas. Luis Zendejas missed a 53-yard field

National Football League				
Standings				
Eastern Division				
	W	L	T	PF
Buffalo	7	4	0	303
Miami	7	4	0	238
Indianapolis	5	6	0	201

American Conference				
	W	L	T	PF
San Francisco	9	2	0	308
L.A. Rams	9	2	0	282
New Orleans	6	5	0	262
Atlanta	3	8	0	191

Western Division				
	W	L	T	PF
San Francisco	9	2	0	308
L.A. Rams	9	2	0	282
New Orleans	6	5	0	262
Atlanta	3	8	0	191

Central Division				
	W	L	T	PF
New England	4	7	0	214
N.Y. Jets	2	9	0	192
Cleveland	7	3	1	260
Houston	7	4	0	295
Cincinnati	6	5	0	276
Pittsburgh	5	6	1	143

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Crowe brothers warm up for Test with 100s

ADELAIDE, Australia, Nov 20. (Reuters) The Crowe brothers, Jeff and Martin, warmed up for the single Test against Australia in Perth on Friday with centuries in a drawn four-day cricket match against South Australia.

Martin Crowe, 115 not out overnight, put on 28 before being caught at second slip off Ian's pacekeeper Phil Alley for 143. He hit 16 boundaries in his 122-ball innings.

Jeff Crowe, who had added 157 for

the fifth wicket with his more talented younger brother, continued to make the most of a placid Adelaide wicket, finishing the innings 109 not out.

New Zealand declared at 445 for seven in their first innings, in reply to the home side's 459, when Chris Cairns was bowled by Andrew Hilditch for 39.

The innings by Jeff Crowe, who had a wretched tour here in 1987/88, will calm the touring side's fears

about its batting strength in the light of Andrew Jones' finger injury which threatens to keep him out of the Perth Test.

Scoreboard

SOUTH AUSTRALIA 459
NEW ZEALAND first innings (over-
night 303 for four)
R. Vanecko c Hilditch b Alley 65
J. Wright lbw b Alley 23
M. Greatbatch c Berry b Gladigau 38

M. Crowe c Bishop b Alley 143
D. Patel c Alley b Sleep 20
J. Crowe not out 108
I. Smith lbw b Sleep 4
C. Cairns b Hilditch 39
Extras (lb-5 nb-1) 6
Total (for seven wickets) 445
— declared
Fall of wickets: 1-57 2-114 3-141 4-
188 5-345 6-360 7-445
Bowling: Gladigau 33-10-82-1,
Clarke 38-14-70-0, Scuderi 38-18-87-
0 (nb-1), Alley 26-10-78-3, Sleep 49-

13-131-2, Hilditch 4-0-12-1.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA second
innings
G. Bishop not out b Cairns 26
A. Hilditch c J. Crowe b Cairns 32
P. Nobes b Cairns 2
D. Hookes not out 3
Extras (lb-1 nb-3) 4
Total (for two wickets) 67
Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-59
Bowling: Morrison 3-1-12-0, Wat-
son 6-0-12-0 (3nb), Snedden 11-3-
20-0, Cairns 8-2-22-2.

SPORTS BRIEF

FA Cup draw

LONDON, Nov 20. (Reuters) The draw for the second round of the English Football Association (FA) Cup was made today as follows: Southampton v Burnley or Stockport, Blackpool v MacClesfield or Chester, Whiteley Bay v Preston, Walsall v Rotherham or Bury, Grimsby v Doncaster, Darlington v Halifax, Crewe v Bishop Auckland, Chesterfield v Huddersfield, Wigan v Carlisle, Rochdale v Lincoln, Colchester v Birmingham, Bristol Rovers or Reading v Gillingham or Welling, Northampton v Aylesbury, Maidstone v Gloucester, Hereford v Merthyr Tydfil, Cambridge United v Woking, Basingstoke v Sutton or Torquay, Bristol City v Bath or Fulham. Matches to be played on Saturday, December 9.

Players doped

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 20. (UPI) South Africa's National Soccer League will investigate allegations that a club official deliberately gave doped orange juice to the opposition before last Saturday's match, officials said today. In the third such incident involving opponents of Swaraj United this season, players of Mahwelereng Motherwell experienced dizziness, low blood-pressure and nausea after drinking orange juice immediately before the match. The referee ordered the Second Division match abandoned twenty minutes into the first half after Motherwell had conceded three goals in five minutes.

Drug users

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, Nov 20. (Reuters) Yugoslav sportsmen and women caught using performance-enhancing drugs could be jailed, a top sports official said today. "We are in the process of introducing very heavy fines for those involved in using doping," said Dusko Dragun, chief of Yugoslavia's Federal Sports Committee.

Kankunen ahead

Hafren, Wales, Nov 20. (Reuters) Flying Finn Juha Kankunen maintained his narrow advantage over Toyota team-mate Kenneth Eriksson of Sweden on the second day of the British rally today.

Bobsledder dies

DRESDEN, East Germany, Nov 20. (AP) Romanian bobsledder Daniel Oaida died early today in a Dresden hospital from injuries received during training for the World Cup bobsled races, the East German news agency ADN reported.

Baresi injured

MILAN, Italy, Nov 20. (Reuters) Franco Baresi, star defender for World Cup hosts Italy and for AC Milan, will be out of action for at least a month after breaking his arm in his team's 3-0 win over arch-rivals Internazionale, doctors said today.

Porto triumph

LISBON, Nov 20. (Reuters) Rabah Madjer, struggling off the disappointment of Algeria's World Cup exit this week, scored a hat-trick to help Porto beat Feirense 4-1 yesterday and keep them on top of the Portuguese Soccer First Division.

Charges fabricated

ALGIERS, Nov 20. (Reuters) Algerian soccer star Lakhder Boudouma, returning from Cairo after a World Cup defeat, said the Egyptian media fabricated charges accusing him of partially blinding an Egyptian doctor in post-match violence.

Romario shines

AMSTERDAM, Nov 20. (Reuters) In-form Brazilian international Romario scored four goals to help PSV Eindhoven crush FC Utrecht 7-1 and reclaim leadership of the Dutch soccer First Division yesterday.

East German sprinter

EAST BERLIN, Nov 20. (AP) Silke Moeller, a leader East German sprinter, was quoted today as saying athletes from this communist country should be allowed to keep a share of their earnings from international meets. Another East German newspaper reported that East German Olympic champions receive a reward roughly equal to three average annual incomes.

Balloon fiesta

EMIRATES, the high-flying airline of the UAE, is all set to go up, up and away in the Gulf's first-ever giant hot-air balloon fiesta. The huge Emirates balloon will lead the way as 14 others, flown by some of the world's best pilots, majestically soar over the desert during the three-day long Dubai Balloon Fiesta starting Nov 30.

Midfield star

PARIS, Nov 20. (Reuters) Fast-rising midfielder star Didier Deschamps is to sign for French champions Marseille, his current club Nantes said today.

Japanese sumoists

TOKYO, Nov 20. (UPI) About 100 sumoists will compete in a three-day exhibition tournament of Japan's traditional sport of sumo in Sao Paulo, Brazil, June 8-10 next year, the Japan Sumo Association said today.

Pakistan, India draw

Manjrekar hits ton in first Test

KARACHI, Pakistan, Nov 20. (Reuters) Young Sanjay Manjrekar scored a century and carried India to an honourable draw with Pakistan in the first cricket Test today.

Starting the day on 86 for one, India were never likely to reach the 453-run victory target but ended on a respectable 303 for three.

Batting with patience and style, Manjrekar was 113 not out at the close, his highest ever Test score, after a 135-run partnership with opener Navjot Sidhu earlier in the day had steered India to safety.

Manjrekar, the son of former Test player Vijay Manjrekar, never looked in danger from bowling weakened by the absence of paceman Waqar Younis with a strained back.

Pakistan suffered a second blow when wicketkeeper Saleem Yousuf retired with a finger injury. Aamer Malik took over.

Sidhu survived two dropped catches to make 85 including 12 fours and a six before being finally caught by Rameez Raja off Imran Khan after lunch.



Sanjay Manjrekar

Aamer then rose to the occasion by catching Mohammed Azharuddin for 35 when the

Indian tried to sweep a delivery from Abdul Qadir.

Ravi Shastri with 22 not out stayed with Manjrekar until the match was declared a draw in the mandatory 14th over after tea.

India's Kapil Dev, playing in his 100th Test, was named Man of the Match after taking seven wickets and helping save the follow-on Friday.

Indian captain Krishnamachari Srikkanth described the result as a "moral booster." Srikkanth, who disputed a leg before wicket decision against him in the second innings, still had praise for English umpires John Hampshire and John Holder.

The two men were invited in an attempt to end the fierce disputes and alleged bias of umpires in previous India-Pakistan Tests.

India was put to bat for the second time just after tea yesterday, fourth day of the Test, after Imran Khan declared his second innings closed at 305 for five wickets.

It meant asking India to hit 453 runs in 330 minutes and 20 mandatory overs today, last day

of the play. It also meant that India was supposed to score 453 runs in almost 400 minutes to win a tall order, keeping in view their first innings performance when they were dismissed for 262.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings 408 (Shoaib Mohammad 67, Javed Miandad 78, Imran Khan 109 not out, Kapil Dev four for 68)

INDIA first innings 262 (Kapil Dev 55, K. More 58 not out) Pakistan second innings 305 for five declared (Salim Malik 102 not out, Shoaib Mohammad 95)

INDIA second innings (overnight 86 for one)
K. Srikkanth c Rameez Akram 31
N. Sidhu c Rameez Raja b Imran Khan 85
S. Manjrekar not out 113
M. Azharuddin c Aamer Malik b Abdul Qadir 35
R. Shastri not out 22
Extras (lb-4 w-1 nb-3) 17
Total (for two wickets) 303

Fall of wickets: 1-43 2-173 3-256
Did not bat: Kapil Dev, S. Tendulkar, K. More, A. Ayub, S. Ankola, M. Prabhakar

Bowling: Imran Khan 28-10-56-1, Waqar Younis 25-7-68-1, Abdul Qadir 28-3-119-1, Waqar Younis 2-0-11-0, Shahid Saeed 13-0-36-0

Lankans struggle to draw

CANBERRA, Nov 20. (Reuters) Sri Lanka recovered from 14 for two to struggle to a draw today in their four-day cricket match with New South Wales.

Paceman Mike Whitney produced an inspired combination of pace and swing to destroy the Sri Lankan top order after the New South Wales declared at 82 for two and set their opponents a target of 238 off 38 overs.

Sri Lanka hung on grimly to finish at 119 for seven but not before Whitney threatened to turn the first game of their Australian tour into a nightmare.

He took three wickets for one run in his first 13 deliveries to leave Sri Lanka reeling at nine for three.

The touring side were saved by a partnership of 45 between Asanka Gurusinghe, who made 45, and captain Arjuna Ranatunga, who hit a valuable 18.

NEW SOUTH WALES first innings 423 for seven declared
SRI LANKA first innings (overnight 217 for three)
D. Ranatunga c Emery b Whitney 56
A. Samarasekera c Emery b Matthews 133
A. Gurusinghe c and b O'Neill 8
A. de Silva c Emery b Whitney 30
G. Wickremasinghe b Whitney 0
S. Ratnayake lbw b Lawson 0
H. Tilakaratne lbw b Lawson 0
S. Jayasuriya lbw b M. Vaughn 27
R. Ratnayake lbw b M. Vaughn 1
R. Madursinghe not out 4
Extras (lb-4 nb-1) 5
Total 268
Did not bat - G. Labrooy
Fall of wickets: 1-159 2-190 3-208 4-218 5-225 6-225 7-255 8-258 9-268
Bowling: Lawson 25-13-39-2, Whitney 24-7-54-3, Vaughn 4-3-2-7-2 (1nb), Taylor 15-3-40-0, Matthews 22-6-58-1, O'Neill 20-5-66-1

NEW SOUTH WALES second innings
S. Small not out 36
M. Taylor c Ratnayake b Ranatunga 28
T. Bayliss lbw b Ranatunga 2
S. Waugh not out 11
Extras (w-1 nb-4) 5
Total (for two wickets) 82
— declared
Fall of wickets: 1-54 2-58
Bowling: Ratnayake 9-2-38-0 (4nb 1w), Gurusinha 4-0-23-0, Ranatunga 7-0-17-2, Madursinghe 2-0-4-0
SRI LANKA second innings
D. Ranatunga lbw b Whitney 0
A. Samarasekera b Whitney 0
A. Gurusinha c Matthews 45
A. de Silva c S. Waugh b Whitney 2
H. Tilakaratne lbw b M. Vaughn 5
A. Ranatunga c Matthews 18
b P. Taylor 18
S. Jayasuriya not out 27
R. Ratnayake c Emery b O'Neill 12
G. Wickremasinghe not out 4
Extras (lb-5 nb-1) 6
Total (for seven wickets) 119
Fall of wickets: 1-02 2-13 3-94 4-145 5-6-98 7-113
Bowling: Whitney 9-2-21-3, M. Vaughn 6-1-29-1 (1nb), Matthews 11-4-32-0, P. Taylor 11-3-28-2, O'Neill 3-2-4-1

Aussies name Test squad

SYDNEY, Nov 20. (Reuters) Australia, worried by an injury to paceman Terry Alderman, today named five fast bowlers and no spinner for the sole Test against New Zealand starting in Perth on Friday.

The 12-man squad is made up of players who took part in the successful Ashes tour of England, with either Greg Campbell or Carl Rackemann likely to be named 12th man.

Alderman is suffering from a muscle strain which has caused him to miss Western Australia's current match against Victoria. The swing bowler, who took 41 Test wickets in England, is considered lethal on the home pitch in Perth.

Campbell, who played in the first Ashes Test, and Rackemann have been the form bowlers in early Sheffield Shield games. Campbell has taken 14 wickets in three matches for Tasmania.

Squad: Allan Border (captain), Geoff Marsh, Mark Taylor, David Boon, Dean Jones, Steve Waugh, Ian Healy, Carl Rackemann, Terry Alderman, Geoff Lawson, Merv Hughes, Greg Campbell.

US qualify for World Cup finals

PORT OF SPAIN, Nov 20. (Reuters) The United States World Cup hosts in 1994, claimed the last of the 24 places in next year's finals in Italy with a 1-0 victory over Trinidad and Tobago yesterday.

The victory gave the United States its first World Cup berth since 1950. The Americans now join Costa Rica from the Concacaf group in the finals.

The winning goal came in the 30th minute before some 30,000 people when midfielder Paul Caligiuri took a pass and hit the net just out of the reach of diving

goalkeeper Michael Maurice.

Trinidad and Tobago started the game aggressively, intent on scoring a quick goal to put more pressure on the Americans, who needed to win to qualify for the finals. The hosts needed only a draw.

But poor shooting by Trinidad and Tobago forwards, coupled with what appeared to be nervousness, allowed the Americans to follow their game plan.

In the second half, Trinidad and Tobago fought desperately to level the score. American

goalkeeper Tony Meola made some excellent saves but several shots missed the nets.

On a soggy field, both teams had difficulty controlling the ball and the Americans used the long ball, instead of the short passes employed by their opponents.

"It was a collective effort," said US coach Bob Gansler. "We did what we felt we had to do - pressure Trinidad and Tobago early...don't allow them to Mickey Mouse the clock, to waste time and push them to play forward."

"I think we did that and once

we got the goal, other tactics came into play. My players shifted gears appropriately on the field. Victory gives us the opportunity to go to Italy and test ourselves against the world's heavyweights and gain valuable experience and more attention and respectability."

The Trinidad and Tobago government has declared Monday a public holiday in recognition of the efforts of their team.

"This is the greatest thing in the world, the World Cup," said Mike Windischman, the American captain. "It's bigger than the Super Bowl or the World Series."

Not to most of the United States. But to the players and officials of the team, it is.

"Everything you work for as a child and in your youth and adulthood was on the line in this game," Caligiuri said. "Today was our destiny, our dream."

Tab Ramos made a throw-in that Brian Bliss picked up just past midfield. Bliss carried it down the left side and passed to Caligiuri, who was almost 10 yards outside the penalty area.

"I faked the shot with my right foot and pushed it left," Caligiuri said. "I don't think he expected me to shoot."

His curving, dipping shot went into the upper right corner. Maurice was in the middle of the net and had no chance to stop the shot.

The US players jumped on Caligiuri, who ended the team's scoreless streak at 238 minutes.

"I said before the game to the players, 'your feet are going to carry you faster and faster than



From left to right: Saleh, Mosawi, Falah, Khalifa and Khayat.

Mosawi, Falah favourites

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

ONLY three days are left before the start of the Alghanim 4 x 4 rally in Kuwait on Friday but the Marlboro/Mitsubishi team are ready to take on the opposition, according to Nigel Heneghan, who addressed a press conference yesterday at the Kuwait International Hotel on behalf of the team.

The rally starts at 8.30 am on Friday morning from the Kuwait International Hotel and will be held over 12 stages, about 110km. Four stages will be repeated three times in a loop format and the rally will finish at 4.30 pm at the Kuwait International.

On Thursday afternoon, a prologue will be held to determine the starting order for the rally.

Marlboro/Mitsubishi are fielding three teams in this rally. The cars will be driven by Qatar's Abbas Al Mosawi, partnered by Dubai's Mohammed Omar, Kuwait's Eid Falah and co-driver Khalid Khalifa and Saudi Arabia's Mamdouh Khayat, partnered by Kuwait's Sadeq Ashkenazi.

Heneghan said that he expected a tough fight to take place between Eid Falah and Al Mosawi, although the latter is expected to start the rally as favourite in his long-wheel-base Pajero.



Heneghan (left) addresses the conference. (Photos by Khalid Gabar)

Al Mosawi has already won the 4 x 4 Marlboro Desert Challenge event by scoring victories in Oman, Jordan and Qatar but he hopes to add to his victories by finishing first on Friday.

Falah became a member of the Marlboro/Mitsubishi team at the Qatar Rally in October and immediately made his mark by finishing second.

The last member of the team, Mamdouh Khayat, has finished in the upper order a number of times this year and will be trying to hold off Dubai-based Lebanese driver Michel Saleh in order to take the runners-up slot. Khayat has to finish ahead of Saleh to take that position.

Talking to the newsmen,

Falah denied that his rally car was less powerful than Al Mosawi's. He added that all the cars in the team were the same, except for a few specifications.

Khalifa, told the Arab Times that the stages for this year's rally were better than those of last year. He added that the stages were good for the four-wheeled vehicles.

While the battle in the modified class goes on, Qatar's Jaber Al Marri and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Al Malki will vie for the title in Group Two. Both the drivers are on equal points going into Friday's rally. Al Marri will be driving a standard Range Rover while Al Malki will be in a standard V6 Mitsubishi Pajero.

Waldegaard leads big rally line-up in Dubai

DUBAI: Former world champion Bjorn Waldegaard will head a line-up of 43 drivers from 13 countries in the Emirates International Rally on November 30 and December 1.

The brilliant Swedish driver, one of rallying's truly great competitors, drives a Winston Toyota Team Middle East Celica GT-4 in an event which brings the regional motor sport season to a climax.

Waldegaard's entry, with the experienced Fred Gallagher as his co-driver, was confirmed yesterday (Monday) by Al Nasr Motor Sports Club, the organisers of the rally.

First away from the starting ramp at the 'Dubai Hyatt Regency Hotel at 9.30 am on November 30, Waldegaard will be followed by his Winston Toyota team-mate, Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem, and Qatari star Saeed Al Hajri in the Rothmans Team Ford Sierra RS Cosworth.

Next to begin the two-day event, sponsored for the first time by Winston and covering a new look 857-km route, will be Oman's Tony Georgiou in a Mitsubishi Galant, one of seven Group A cars taking part.

China brush aside India

LUCKNOW, Nov 20. (Reuters) China, already certain of victory in the five-nation Indira Gandhi Gold Cup women's hockey tournament, completed a clean sweep in the event by beating hosts India 2-0 today.

China's Wu Yanzhen scored twice from penalty corners to finish as the top scorer in the tournament with eight goals. Her side clinched the championship on Saturday by beating Ireland.

The Soviet Union finished second ahead of Ireland on goal difference despite Ireland's easy 5-1 victory over Malaysia earlier today.

Ireland needed to win by six goals against bottom-placed Malaysia to overtake the Soviets, winners of the tournament last year, and looked well on the way to their target when they led 4-0 at half-time.

Real Madrid extend lead

MADRID, Nov 20. (Reuters) Beleguered Real Madrid manager John Toshack had Sanchez to thank for a lucky 3-2 win against Tenerife yesterday.

The Mexican struck twice in the match to lift Real to a three-point lead in the Spanish championship.

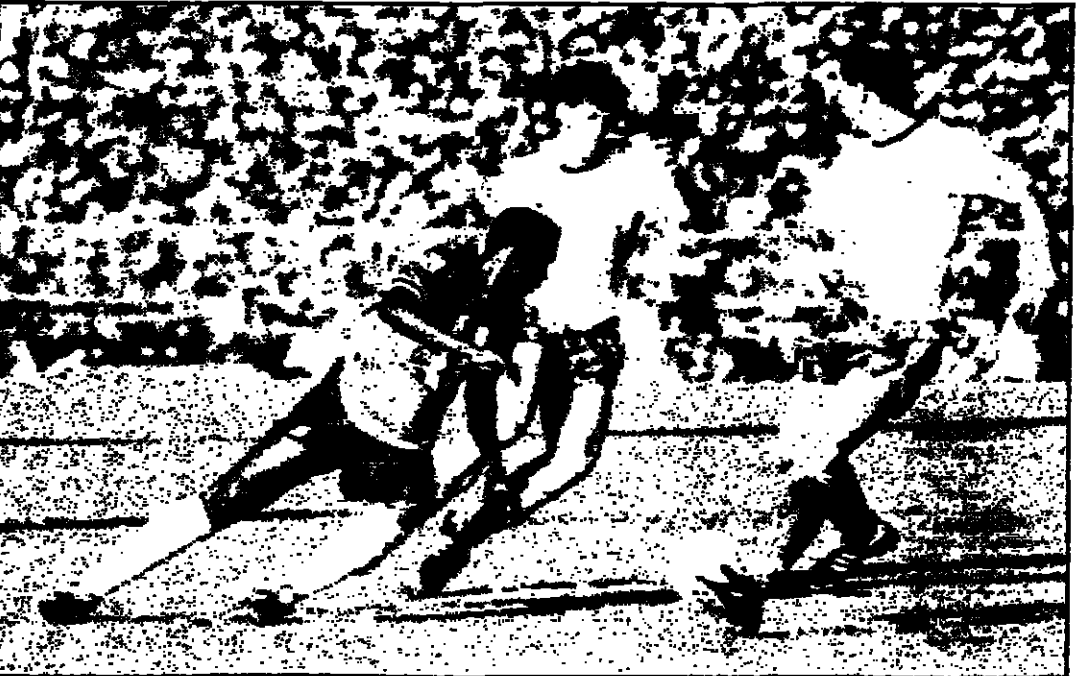
In spite of a first half dominated by Tenerife, Emilio Butragueno put the pass from Michel Gonzalez to surprise Uruguayan goalkeeper Eduardo Beltrami.

But Luis Delgado equalised a minute later and the hosts went ahead in the 46th minute with a goal from Brazilian Aguinaldo 'Gusmao' Cayon.

Tenerife were unlucky not to extend their lead to 3-1 when Real defender Oscar Ruggieri brought down striker Felipe Fernandez in the 68th minute. The Sanchez put real back in the match in the space of four minutes, lobbing belza in the 76th and 80th minutes.

Second-placed Barcelona slipped with a 1-0 defeat at Atletico Madrid last night, ending a run of 11 points from six matches.

An 11th minute goal from Spanish international Manolo Sanchez lifted Atletico into third place, level on points with Barcelona and Real Sociedad.



Dwight Yurks (left) tries to take the ball away from Brian Bliss (right) and Bruce Murray of the United States. (Reuters wirephoto)

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